

Point-by-point responses to Review #1 and 2.

Journal: BG

Title: CO₂ flux over young and snow-covered Arctic sea ice in winter and spring

Author (s): Daiki Nomura et al.

MS No.: bg-2017-521

MS Type: Research article

We thank the reviewers for their valuable comments, which have helped us to improve the manuscript.

For clarity, the authors' responses are inserted as green text.

Anonymous Referee #1

Received and published: 11 February 2018

General comments

Nomura et al present an interesting analysis of rare data capturing CO₂ fluxes between sea ice and the atmosphere in Arctic winter, spring and summer as part of the N-ICE project. The methods are robust, the data are of high quality and significant value, and the arguments laid out in the paper will be of wide interest amongst the sea ice and CO₂ communities. However, the manuscript comes across as a little rushed in its current form, and I believe it would be improved significantly by adding more detail and explaining more clearly the key points. I recommend acceptance for publication after moderate revisions. Results are presented in summary tables. In general, I find that not enough information is presented for the reader to easily follow the arguments made in the paper, and I think some may even be misleading. For instance, based on Table 3, you argue that F_{ice} is greater than F_{snow} and thus make the argument that snow cover reduces flux magnitude. From the table, it appears that this is only demonstrably true for two out of the seven first-year ice stations. Two of the stations appear to have negative fluxes, but this is not addressed in the text at all, but seems to me to be quite important. These factors should be discussed in much greater detail in the text. Given the variability in your results, I think it is necessary to present the actual data, rather than just summary data. This would probably be best as figures, to accompany the summary tables. On a similar note, you have the number of measurements listed for F_{snow} and F_{ff} in table 3, but why not F_{ice}. Please include this information and error estimates. It is also quite difficult in general to follow the flow through and between the different tables, for example discussion of the relationship between flux magnitude and snow thickness or water equivalent. The text needs more detail to guide the reader's understanding and some more figures would certainly help.

We are grateful for your favorable assessment. We have made changes in response to all of your recommendations and edited the text improve the readability of the text.

Now we have indicated the stations for each result (e.g., for stations FI5 and FI6) in the text. In addition, we have added following information about the negative fluxes and reason for single F_{ice} measurement in the text:

“For F_{ice} , there were negative CO_2 fluxes at stations FI3 and FI4 ($-0.6 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ for FI3 and $-0.8 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ for FI4) (Table 3). These fluxes corresponded to low or negative $\Delta pCO_{2 \text{ b-a}}$ as compared to that in atmosphere (Table 2 and Figure 6). Negative CO_2 fluxes should correspond to negative $\Delta pCO_{2 \text{ b-a}}$. Therefore, the uncertainty for the calculation of carbonate chemistry may be one reason for the discrepancy in pCO_2 calculation in these conditions (Brown et al., 2014).”

“During first CO_2 flux measurements (about 30 minutes), ice surface temperature was stable at -5.8°C , suggesting that the effect of removing snow on the variation of sea ice surface temperature was negligible within 30 minutes. The ice surface temperature decreased from -5.8°C to -8.0°C at 200 minutes after removal of snow. Therefore, in this paper, the data of the initial 30 minutes of CO_2 flux measurement after removal of snow or frost flowers was used.”

In order to present actual data, we have added relationships between pCO_2 and CO_2 flux in figure showing the relationships between temperature and CO_2 flux (Figure 6). In addition, we have made new figure showing the temporal variation of CO_2 concentration within chamber (Figure 3).

Specific comments

Introduction: it would be useful to include a little more information about what we know about ice-atmosphere CO_2 fluxes in the context of ocean-atmosphere fluxes overall in the Arctic, and how they may change in the future. That would set the scene nicely for your statements at the end about ice-atmosphere fluxes being important in the context of a changing Arctic and the broader implications of your work. The final paragraph (line 107) could also be much stronger and punchier.

Thank you for your suggestions.

We have now added some more discussion on the results from other work in the Arctic, and to emphasize the lack of observations in the pack ice:

“In the ice covered Arctic Ocean, storm periods, with high wind speeds and open leads are important for air-to-sea CO_2 fluxes (Fransson et al., 2017), due to the under-saturation of

the surface waters in CO₂ with respect to the atmosphere. On the other hand, the subsequent ice growth and frost flowers formation in these leads promote ice-to-air CO₂ fluxes in winter (e.g. Barber et al., 2014). Given the fact that Arctic sea ice is shrinking and shifting from multi-year ice to first-year ice, the area of open ocean and thinner seasonal ice is increasing. Therefore, the contribution of open ocean/thinner sea ice surface to the overall CO₂ fluxes of the Arctic Ocean is potentially increasing. However, due to the difficulty in acquiring observations over the winter pack ice, most of the winter CO₂ flux measurements were examined over the Arctic landfast ice. Therefore, there is a definite lack of information on conditions during wintertime, especially from Arctic pack ice.” in introduction.

“Rare CO₂ flux measurements from Arctic pack ice show that two types of ice are significant contributors to the release of CO₂ from ice to the atmosphere during winter and spring: young thin ice with thin layer of snow, and old (several weeks) snow covered thick ice.” in abstract.

We have changed from “Arctic sea ice” to “Arctic pack ice” in title.

To emphasize the novelty of our work, we have rewritten the final paragraph;

“The Norwegian young sea ICE (N-ICE2015) campaign in winter and spring 2015 provided opportunities to examine CO₂ fluxes between sea ice and atmosphere in a variety of snow and ice conditions in pack ice north of Svalbard. Formation of leads and their rapid refreezing allowed us to examine air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes over thin young sea ice, occasionally covered with frost flowers in addition to the snow-covered older ice that covers most of the pack ice area. The objectives of this study were to understand the effects of i) thin sea ice and frost flowers formations on the air–sea ice CO₂ flux in leads, ii) effect of snow-cover on the air–sea ice CO₂ flux over thin, young ice in the Arctic Ocean during winter and spring seasons, and iii) of the effect of the temperature difference between sea ice and atmosphere (including snow cover) on the air–sea ice CO₂ flux. ”.

Line 125-127: state specifically which stations you are referring to. I assume “young ice”, but this should be explicit. That might also help the descriptions of relationships between variables in the discussion, as mentioned in “general comments”.

Thank you for this suggestion. We have added the specific information for station “station Y11”. For the descriptions of relationships between variables in the discussion, please see your general comments.

Line 155-157: does this not contradict your argument that snow provides insulation? Perhaps it would help to mention timescales of T change/stability.

We agree with your comments. We have added:

“The ice surface temperature decreased from -5.8°C to -8.0°C at 200 minutes after removal of snow. Therefore, in this paper, the data of the initial 30 minutes of CO_2 flux measurement after removal of snow or frost flowers was used.” in the text.

Line 162: I think you have air and ice surface the wrong way round.

Correct, well spotted. We have corrected.

Line 172: I think you should distinguish between stations where snow was cleared and where the sea ice surface was naturally snow-free. Given your arguments about the effects of snow cover, I assume this is significant.

We have no station where the sea ice surface was naturally snow-free (unless frost flowers are not considered as snow) (Table 1).

Line 185-187: clarify when temperature was measured.

We have added “during CO_2 flux measurements (approximately 60 minutes after the onset of the CO_2 flux measurement)” in the text.

Line 192-193: why was carbonate chemistry only measured at these four stations? This should be explained. It also means that table 2 looks like there is a lot of data missing; perhaps there is a better way to present these data?

At some occasions there was simply no time to collect the samples right after the flux measurements were taken, due to diverse and challenging conditions in the field. Due to the technical reason, we could not obtain the brine, except for four stations. Therefore, we have no samples for brine carbonate chemistry, except for four stations. We have added “Due to technical reason, data of snow, sea ice, and brine data were not obtained” in Table 2 caption.

Line 220: I think this should be Guildline PORTASAL salinometer Model8410A

Correct. Changed accordingly.

Line 239-240 and 239-250: this strongly suggests that the constants are not valid for your conditions. The following clearly attempts to justify its use, but it is not clear why the 40% uncertainty does not apply to your data, which would mean that none of your calculated values would have statistically significant differences. Please clarify.

For F_{ice} , there was negative CO_2 flux for stations FI3 although $\Delta pCO_{2\ b-a}$ was positive. Negative CO_2 fluxes should correspond to negative $\Delta pCO_{2\ b-a}$. Therefore, the uncertainty for the calculation of carbonate chemistry may be one reason for the discrepancy in pCO_2 calculation in these conditions (Brown et al., 2014)."

We have added "For F_{ice} , there were negative CO_2 fluxes at stations FI3 and FI4 ($-0.6\ mmol\ C\ m^{-2}\ day^{-1}$ for FI3 and $-0.8\ mmol\ C\ m^{-2}\ day^{-1}$ for FI4) (Table 3). These fluxes corresponded to low or negative $\Delta pCO_{2\ b-a}$ as compared to that in atmosphere (Table 2 and Figure 6). Negative CO_2 fluxes should correspond to negative $\Delta pCO_{2\ b-a}$. Therefore, the uncertainty for the calculation of carbonate chemistry may be one reason for the discrepancy in pCO_2 calculation in these conditions (Brown et al., 2014)."

Line 253-254: please give enough information for the reader to understand this calculation, without having to dig out an old reference.

We have added newer reference "Petrich and Eicken, 2010". This is a rather standard method for sea-ice, thus we would not like to use space to explain the derivation of porosity in more detail than referring to the source.

Petrich, C. and Eicken, H.: Growth, structure and properties of sea ice, in Thomas, D. N. and Dieckmann, G. S. eds., Sea Ice, 2nd ed., Oxford, Wiley-Blackwell, 23–77, 2010.

Methods: please include information about how atmospheric pCO_2 was measured. It comes later as a footnote to a table, but should be included here.

We agree with your comment. We have added "The pCO_2 of atmosphere was calculated from CO_2 concentration (ppmv) at Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard (<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/iadv/>) taking into account saturated water vapor and atmospheric pressure during sampling day." in the text.

Line 275-276: state which stations you are referring to. This would help in general in various places in the text.

Agree. We have added “at station YI1” in the text, and also in other locations in the text to make the reasoning easier to follow.

Line 279-280: I think it would help to demonstrate this point if you plotted air temperature on figure 4, so that the relation is clear.

We have added air temperature on Figure 5a.

Line 285-286: can you highlight on figure 4b which measurements are from frost flowers?

We have changed the range of salinity in Figure 5b and added arrow to indicate frost flower data.

Line 292 and table 2: you present data from the top 20 cm, which presumably means your top two 10cm slices. Why do you only present the top 20cm when most cores are longer? Would it be better to present profiles to show downcore variability? If not, please justify presenting only the top 20 cm and provide error/uncertainty estimates from averaging of values from two core slices.

We have used average temperature for top 20 cm sea ice because the environmental information at the top of sea ice were important parameters regulating the CO₂ flux at sea ice surface. Unlikely the conditions deeper down in the ice will be important for such a short period of measurement given fluxes in the ice would be diffusion driven. We have added the range of temperature at top 20 cm sea ice in Table 2.

Line 322: “except for station OI1”. Should this also say YI1 as it does in section 3.2?

Correct. We have added YI1 in the text.

Line 324: “..and in cases the thick insulating snow cover”. Does not make sense. In certain cases? In cases where. . .?

We agree with your comments. We have changed to “, except for station OI1 (Tables 1 and 2)”.

Line 355-358: this statement is only true for FI5, FI6 and YI1. Same comment for line 372-373.

Correct. We have added “, especially for stations FI5 and FI6”.

Line 357: Where you state that one value or group of values is lower than another, please provide relevant statistical details (e.g. t-test, z-test etc.)

We agree with your comments. We have deleted “mean” and added “, especially for stations FI5, FI6, and YII.” in the text.

Line 372-382: This paragraph is an example of where a lot more detail is required to demonstrate your points. Flux direction, magnitude and relationships between variables all need to be discussed for the different stations.

We have added information of flux direction, magnitude and relationships between variables ($F_{\text{snow}}/F_{\text{ice}}$ ratio and water equivalent) all need to be discussed for the different stations. New paragraph is:

“The magnitude of positive F_{snow} is less than F_{ice} for stations FI5 and FI6 (Table 3) indicating that the potential CO_2 flux from sea ice decreased due to the presence of snow. Previous studies have shown that snow accumulation over sea ice effectively impede CO_2 exchange (Nomura et al., 2013; Brown et al., 2015). Nomura et al. (2013) reported that 50–90% of the potential CO_2 flux was reduced due to the presence of snow/superimposed-ice at the water equivalent of 57–400 kg m^{-2} , indicating that the snow properties are an important factor that controls the CO_2 exchange through a snowpack. Comparisons between stations FI5 and FI6 for $F_{\text{snow}}/F_{\text{ice}}$ ratio (0.2 for FI5 and 0.0 for FI6) and water equivalent (11 kg m^{-2} for FI5 and 127 kg m^{-2} for FI6) indicate that the potential CO_2 flux is reduced (80% for FI5 and 98% for FI6 of the potential CO_2 flux) with increasing water equivalent. Although the magnitude of the potential CO_2 flux through the sea ice surface decreased by the presence of snow for stations FI5 and FI6 (Table 3), the snow surface still presents a CO_2 source to the atmosphere for low snow density and shallow depth conditions (e.g., +0.6 $\text{mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ for FI5).”

Line 380: reference to table 3. You need to be specific about what you are referring to that shows that flux is reduced by the presence of snow. If you compare FI5 and FI6, FI6 shows a much greater potential flux but actually has a greater snow thickness and water equivalent than FI5. This should be incorporated into your comparisons.

We agree with your comments. We have added “for stations FI5 and FI6”.

Line 396-399: How will footprint size make such a big difference? If it arises from small-scale heterogeneity in time and/or space, this should be stated. Are there any other reasons worthy of mention?

To clarify we have added the following “The eddy covariance method reflects a flux integrated over a large area, that can contain several different surface types. Therefore, eddy-covariance appears to be more useful for understanding fluxes at large special and temporal scales. On the other hand, the chamber method reflects the area where chamber was covered, and it is useful for understanding the relationship between fluxes and ice surface conditions on smaller scales. The different spatial scales of the two methods may be therefore one reason for the discrepancy in CO₂ flux measurements.”

Line 401-406: your fluxes are at the lower end of positive values – this should be stated, and elaborated on to discuss negative fluxes as well as positive ones (as per my earlier comment).

We have added “of positive values”.

We have added “For F_{ice} , there were negative CO₂ fluxes at stations FI3 and FI4 ($-0.6 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ for FI3 and $-0.8 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ for FI4) (Table 3). These fluxes corresponded to low or negative $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{b-a}$ as compared to that in atmosphere (Table 2 and Figure 6). Negative CO₂ fluxes should correspond to negative $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{b-a}$. Therefore, the uncertainty for the calculation of carbonate chemistry may be one reason for the discrepancy in $p\text{CO}_2$ calculation in these conditions (Brown et al., 2014).” in the text.

Line 406: should be “up to +11.8” or somehow make it clear that this is the maximum value.

We agree with your comments. We have added “up to”.

Line 432-461: this section emphasises the importance of the temperature gradient in modifying fluxes and gives the impression that this is the most important variable. In fact, the correlation between temperature difference and flux is less strong than the correlation with $p\text{CO}_2$ difference between the ice and atmosphere (given in line 310). This would be much clearer and more reflective of what the data show, if both variables were discussed here in terms of their relative importance overall and such a strong emphasis on temperature dampened. I also think it would help to add to figure 5 a panel which plots $p\text{CO}_2$ difference vs. flux, to show the two relationships directly.

We agree with your comments. We indicated that both variables ($\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{b-a}$ and temperature difference) affect CO₂ flux. For example, we compared our data (e.g. for

station FI6) with a previous study (Nomura et al., 2006) for each variable. The $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{\text{b-a}}$ was similar (297 μatm for Nomura et al., 2006 and 293 μatm for FI6) while temperature difference was not same (4.5°C for Nomura et al., 2006 and 20.2°C for FI6). In addition, the CO_2 flux was +0.7 $\text{mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ for Nomura et al., 2006 and +11.8 $\text{mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ for FI6. These results suggested that temperature difference enhanced the CO_2 flux between sea ice and atmosphere at the same $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{\text{b-a}}$. On the other hand, the variation of $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{\text{b-a}}$ would be modified CO_2 flux as shown in equation ($F_{\text{CO}_2} = r_b k \alpha \Delta p\text{CO}_2_{\text{b-a}}$). For the relationships between CO_2 flux and $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{\text{b-a}}$ as indicated in section 3.4, CO_2 flux values included the effect of the temperature difference. Therefore, it is difficult to divide the relative importance for $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{\text{b-a}}$ and temperature difference.

We have added relationships between $p\text{CO}_2$ and CO_2 flux in figure showing the relationships between temperature and CO_2 flux (Figure 6).

Line 458-459: “for young sea ice likely the frost flower conditions”. Does not make sense.

We agree with your comments. We have changed to “for young sea ice with frost flowers (e.g. station Y11)”.

Line 468-473: from the data presented in table 3, not all stations can be described as showing CO_2 sources. Some clearly show sink behaviour (negative fluxes), and for a number of others, the uncertainty on flux estimates cannot confidently be described as a source, e.g. when flux = 0.1 ± 0.1 . This is particularly the case given that you state the detection limit as 0.1. This also needs to be considered in your discussion.

We agree with your comments. We have added:

“For F_{ice} , there were negative CO_2 fluxes at stations FI3 and FI4 ($-0.6 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ for FI3 and $-0.8 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$ for FI4) (Table 3). These fluxes corresponded to low or negative $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{\text{b-a}}$ as compared to that in atmosphere (Table 2 and Figure 6). Negative CO_2 fluxes should correspond to negative $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{\text{b-a}}$. Therefore, the uncertainty for the calculation of carbonate chemistry may be one reason for the discrepancy in $p\text{CO}_2$ calculation in these conditions (Brown et al., 2014).”

Line 476-477: This should not be presented as a conclusion.

We agree with your comments. We have deleted from the text.

Line 485-488: I think you undersell the importance of your work here, and you could make more compelling statements about the role of sea ice in CO_2 fluxes in a changing Arctic.

We agree with your comments. We have deleted.

Figure 3. should this cite Hudson et al., 2015?

We agree with your comments. We have added “Hudson et al., 2015” in the Figure 3 caption.

Table 2. Consider adding an extra column for $\Delta p\text{CO}_2$ (air-sea difference) to aid understanding.

Added as suggested.

Table 3. The key thing that jumps out for me is that natural flux is much higher for frost flowers than snow. I would have thought that’s worth highlighting in your discussion.

We have added “and F_{ff} was higher than F_{snow} , except for station F11”. We also indicated “Frost flowers are known to promote gas flux, such as CO_2 , from the sea ice to the atmosphere (Geilfus et al., 2013; Barber et al., 2014; Fransson et al., 2015).”

Technical corrections

In general, the manuscript is well-written, the technical language is appropriate, and the standard of English is good. However, there are a couple of points to check throughout the text: use of the definite/indefinite article; singular/plural nouns and their following verbs e.g. frost flowers, was/were.

Thank you. During revisions we have tried to have our native-English co authors read through the text to improve the flow.

Line 84: should be transport by molecular diffusion

Changed accordingly.

Line 218: remove hyphens

Changed accordingly.

Line 377: I think 0.0 is a mistake.

$F_{\text{snow}}/F_{\text{ice}}$ ratio for FI6 was 0.02. Therefore, we indicated it as “0.0”.

Table 3: brackets in the top line are confusing.

We have changed.

Anonymous Referee #2

Received and published: 16 February 2018

The manuscript makes interesting observations of CO₂ flux through sea ice, but requires extensive improvement. It was never articulated how this study is novel. I feel that it perhaps may be novel, but it is unclear how in its current form. Major revisions are needed before this manuscript can be considered publishable. The abstract is borderline uninformative. What are characteristic fluxes? Are these important? Of course CO₂ can flux through sea ice, but it's hard for the reader to gauge exactly how trivial this is without values in the abstract to justify reading the rest of the paper. The sentence beginning line 61 is a reference dump. What did these studies find and how does it build to the importance (or lack thereof) of the present manuscript?

We are grateful for your assessment of our work. We have now added some more discussion on the results from other work in the Arctic, and to emphasize the lack of observations in the pack ice:

We have added “In the ice covered Arctic Ocean, storm periods, with high wind speeds and open leads are important for air-to-sea CO₂ fluxes (Fransson et al., 2017), due to the under-saturation of the surface waters in CO₂ with respect to the atmosphere. On the other hand, the subsequent ice growth and frost flowers formation in these leads promote ice-to-air CO₂ fluxes in winter (e.g. Barber et al., 2014). Given the fact that Arctic sea ice is shrinking and shifting from multi-year ice to first-year ice, the area of open ocean and thinner seasonal ice is increasing. Therefore, the contribution of open ocean/thinner sea ice surface to the overall CO₂ fluxes of the Arctic Ocean is potentially increasing. However, due to the difficulty in acquiring observations over the winter pack ice, most of the winter CO₂ flux measurements were examined over the Arctic landfast ice. Therefore, there is a definite lack of information on conditions during wintertime, especially from Arctic pack ice.” in introduction.

We have changed the final paragraph of the introduction “The Norwegian young sea ICE (N-ICE2015) campaign in winter and spring 2015 provided opportunities to examine CO₂ fluxes between sea ice and atmosphere in a variety of snow and ice conditions in pack ice

north of Svalbard. Formation of leads and their rapid refreezing allowed us to examine air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes over thin young sea ice, occasionally covered with frost flowers in addition to the snow-covered older ice that covers most of the pack ice area. The objectives of this study were to understand the effects of i) thin sea ice and frost flowers formations on the air–sea ice CO₂ flux in leads, ii) effect of snow-cover on the air–sea ice CO₂ flux over thin, young ice in the Arctic Ocean during winter and spring seasons, and iii) of the effect of the temperature difference between sea ice and atmosphere (including snow cover) on the air–sea ice CO₂ flux.” in introduction.

In the abstract, we have added CO₂ flux values “We found that young sea ice formed in leads, without snow cover, is the most effective in terms of CO₂ flux (+1.0 ± 0.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) since the fluxes are an order of magnitude higher than for snow-covered older ice (+0.2 ± 0.2 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹).” We have added “Rare CO₂ flux measurements from Arctic pack ice show that two types of ice are significant contributors to the release of CO₂ from ice to the atmosphere during winter and spring: young thin ice with thin layer of snow, and old (several weeks) snow covered thick ice.”.

68: Sea-ice CO₂ fluxes

Changed accordingly.

On line 81, please see Massman et al. (1995) as the fundamental reference on this topic (https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs_exp_for/glees/exp_for_glees_1995_massman.pdf).

We agree with your comments. We have checked and added.

Somewhat harsh transition before the last paragraph of the introduction. Please state more clearly how the background materials presented tie directly to the proposed study and therefore what makes the present study novel. Material in section 4.3 could help. (note that there are also many reference dumps here. Please explain what the studies found; it is your job to make the reader’s job easy (<https://www.sesync.org/blog/the-writers-job>).

We agree with your comment. Please see our response to your first comment “The manuscript makes interesting observations of CO₂ fluxand how does it build to the importance (or lack thereof) of the present manuscript?”.

on line 132, how was it ensured that placement of chambers did not perturb the pressure gradients in the snow? Creating pressure gradients can push CO₂ out (or pull it in).

We agree with your comment. First, the chamber collar was inserted 5 cm into the snow and 1 cm into ice at frost flowers site to avoid air leaks between inside and outside of chamber. Then, chambers were installed over the collar. Therefore, placement of chamber on collar would avoid creation of pressure gradient. In addition, LI-COR 8100-104 chambers used in this study have carefully designed pressure vents to prevent pressure gradients and wind incursion from outside the chamber (Xu L., et al. 2006). Xu L., et al. 2006. On maintaining pressure equilibrium between a soil CO₂ flux chamber and the ambient air. Journal of Geophysical Research. 111, D08S10, doi:10.1029/2005JD006435.

on 144, please see Bain et al. (2005) as a relevant reference for wind-induced effects (<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0168192305001164>)

Thank you. We have checked and added.

Frost flowers are first introduced in the paragraph beginning on line 146. One assumes that these are somehow important for CO₂ flux? The notion was not previously introduced. (see line 360. This belongs in the intro). I agree with Reviewer 1 that the manuscript was prepared somewhat hastily.

We have added “In addition, Fransson et al. (2015) indicated that frost flowers promote CO₂ flux from the ice to the atmosphere.” in the introduction. We also mentioned “F_{ff}” in the method section.

153: what is station FI6? Abbreviations are introduced before they are explained. It would help to explain the geography of the site before the measurements, also to ensure that measurements were made with a random design in mind.

We have changed “Air–sea ice CO₂ flux measurements were done over young ice (YI stations), first-year ice (FI stations), and old ice (multi-year ice) (OI station).”. We also referred to the table where all the stations are listed.

Extensive English improvement is needed in section 2.3

We agree with your comment. The native English-speaking co-author has now edited section 2.3 and gone through the text.

On line 266, what does 'near-constant 0 C' mean?

We agree with your comment. We have changed to “near 0”.

60.0 cm sounds rather specific for a measurement of snow which I assume has frequent small undulations, either at the snow surface or snow-ice interface in section 3.4, per day is not a SI unit, and diurnal patterns in the flux may make it difficult to scale from the native measurements (in the SI units of seconds) to the full day.

Snow is variable, but given that these are spot measurement we report to snow depth at site of measurement, as it is the local conditions that will affect the conditions at the measurement site ice surface. We would like to keep unit used in this study because sea ice CO₂ flux community used in the previous studies and it would be convenient for comparisons.

416: the abbreviation F was introduced far earlier.

Correct, (F) deleted from the sentence.

432: this is actually interesting. By focusing on the challenge of estimating gas transfer velocity, the manuscript has some novel features. These might be initial hypotheses for future work if causality can't be determined, but the mechanisms of sea ice/atmosphere gas exchange make for a more interesting analysis even if remaining questions are left.

We agree with your comments. We estimated gas transfer velocity for station FI6 and tank experiment. The gas transfer velocity for F_{ice} at station FI6 is higher than that of tank experiment examined in Nomura et al. (2006) even with very similar $\Delta pCO_{2\ b-a}$ and brine volume fraction. Therefore, our results clearly indicated that temperature difference between sea ice surface and atmosphere would produce an unstable air density gradient and upward transport of air, thereby increasing gas transfer velocity. The comparison of the gas transfer velocity would be useful to evaluate the temperature effect on the air-sea ice CO₂ flux.

Figure 4: avoid simultaneous use of red and green in a figure.

We agree with your comments. We have changed.

1 | **CO₂ flux over young and snow-covered Arctic pack ice in**
2 | **winter and spring**

Nomura Daiki 2018/3/24 0:22

削除: sea

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39 **Abstract**

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Rare CO₂ flux measurements from Arctic pack ice show that two types of ice are significant contributors to the release of CO₂ from ice to the atmosphere during winter and spring: young thin ice with thin layer of snow, and old (several weeks) snow covered thick ice. Young thin sea ice is characterized by high salinity and then porosity and thin layer of snow. Snow covered thick ice can remain relatively warm (>-7.5°C) due to a thick insulating snow cover despite air temperatures were as low as -40°C. Brine volume fractions of these two ice type are therefore high enough to provide favorable conditions for gas exchange between sea ice and the atmosphere even in mid-winter. Although the potential CO₂ flux from sea ice decreased due to the presence of the snow, the snow surface is still a CO₂ source to the atmosphere for low snow density and thin snow conditions. We found that young sea ice formed in leads, without snow cover, is the most effective in terms of CO₂ flux (+1.0 ± 0.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) since the fluxes are an order of magnitude higher than for snow-covered older ice (+0.2 ± 0.2 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹).

1 Introduction

Arctic sea ice is changing dramatically, with rapid declines in summer sea ice extent and a shift towards younger and thinner first-year ice rather than thick multi-year ice (e.g., Stroeve et al., 2012; Meier et al., 2014; Lindsay and Schweiger, 2015). Although the effects of sea ice formation and melting on biogeochemical cycles in the ocean have previously been discussed (e.g., Vancoppenolle et al., 2013), the effects of sea ice freezing and melting on the carbon dioxide (CO₂) exchange with the atmosphere are still large unknowns (Parmentier et al., 2013).

Recent CO₂ flux measurements on sea ice indicate that sea ice is an active component in gas exchange between ocean and atmosphere (Nomura et al., 2013; Geilfus et al., 2013; 2014; Delille et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015; Kotovitch et al., 2016). The sea-ice CO₂

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121 fluxes depend on (a) the difference in the partial pressure of CO₂ (pCO₂) between the
122 sea ice surface and air, (b) brine volume fraction at the ice-snow interface, (c) ice
123 surface condition including the snow deposited on ice, and (d) wind-driven pressure
124 pumping through the snow. For (a), it is known that the air-sea ice CO₂ flux is driven
125 by the differences in pCO₂ between the sea ice surface and atmosphere (e.g. Delille et
126 al., 2014; Geilfus et al., 2014). The brine pCO₂ changes due to processes within the sea
127 ice, such as thermodynamic process (e.g., Delille et al., 2014), biological activity (e.g.,
128 Delille et al., 2007; Fransson et al., 2013; Rysgaard et al., 2013), and calcium carbonate
129 (CaCO₃; ikaite) formation and dissolution (e.g., Papadimitriou et al., 2012). When the
130 pCO₂ in the brine is higher than that of the air pCO₂, brine has the potential to release
131 CO₂ to the atmosphere. Brine volume fraction (b) controls permeability of sea ice
132 (Golden et al. 1998) and then CO₂ fluxes (Delille et al. 2014; Geilfus et al 2014). The
133 air-sea ice CO₂ flux is strongly dependent on the sea ice surface conditions (c) (Nomura
134 et al., 2010a, 2013; Geilfus et al., 2013; 2014; Barber et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015;
135 Fransson et al., 2015). Nomura et al. (2013) proposed that snow conditions (e.g., water
136 equivalent) are important factors affecting gas exchange processes on sea ice. In
137 addition, frost flowers promote CO₂ flux from the ice to the atmosphere (Geilfus et al.,
138 2013; Barber et al., 2014; Fransson et al., 2015). For (d), it is thought that for snow
139 cover, the CO₂ flux is affected by wind pumping (Massman et al., 1995; Takagi et al.,
140 2005) in which the magnitude of CO₂ flux through snow or overlying soil (e.g., Takagi
141 et al., 2005) increases due to wind pumping and can increase the transport relative to
142 molecular diffusion by up to 40% (Bowling and Massman, 2011). These results were
143 mainly found over land-based snow (soil and forest), and thus these processes are not
144 well understood over sea ice (Papakyriakou and Miller, 2011).

145
146 In addition to the processes described above, the CO₂ flux over sea ice may also be
147 influenced by the temperature difference between the ice surface and the atmosphere.
148 This has been shown in previous studies in dry snowpacks over land surfaces. These
149 studies show that there is an unstable air density gradient due to heating at the bottom
150 producing a strong temperature difference between bottom and top of snow (e.g.,
151 Powers et al., 1985; Severinghaus et al., 2010). This produces air flow within the
152 snowpack, which is a potentially significant contributor to mixing and transport of gas

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161 and heat within the snowpack. We expect that this process would also occur in snow
162 over sea ice, especially during the wintertime when air temperatures are coldest and the
163 temperature difference between sea ice surface (snow bottom) and atmosphere is largest
164 (e.g., Massom et al., 2001). Generally, the sea ice surface under thick snow cover is
165 warm due to the heat conduction from the bottom of sea ice and the insulation effect of
166 the snow cover, and a strong temperature difference between sea ice surface and
167 atmosphere is observed (e.g., Massom et al., 2001). Such a temperature difference
168 would produce an unstable air density gradient and upward transport of air containing
169 CO₂ degassed at the sea-ice surface, thereby enhancing CO₂ exchange between sea ice
170 and atmosphere.

171
172 In the ice covered Arctic Ocean, storm periods, with high wind speeds and open leads
173 are important for air-to-sea CO₂ fluxes (Fransson et al., 2017), due to the under-
174 saturation of the surface waters in CO₂ with respect to the atmosphere. On the other
175 hand, the subsequent ice growth and frost flowers formation in these leads promote ice-
176 to-air CO₂ fluxes in winter (e.g. Barber et al., 2014). Given the fact that Arctic sea ice is
177 shrinking and shifting, from multi-year ice to first-year ice, the area of open ocean and
178 thinner seasonal ice is increasing. Therefore, the contribution of open ocean/thinner sea
179 ice surface to the overall CO₂ fluxes of the Arctic Ocean is potentially increasing.
180 However, due to the difficulty in acquiring observations over the winter pack ice, most
181 of the winter CO₂ flux measurements were examined over the Arctic landfast ice.
182 Therefore, there is a definite lack of information on conditions during wintertime,
183 especially from Arctic pack ice.

184
185 The Norwegian young sea ICE (N-ICE2015) campaign in winter and spring 2015,
186 provided opportunities to examine CO₂ fluxes between sea ice and atmosphere in a
187 variety of snow and ice conditions in pack ice north of Svalbard. Formation of leads and
188 their rapid refreezing allowed us to examine air-sea ice CO₂ fluxes over thin young sea
189 ice, occasionally covered with frost flowers in addition to the snow-covered older ice
190 that covers most of the pack ice area. The objectives of this study were to understand
191 the effects of i) thin sea ice and frost flowers formations on the air-sea ice CO₂ flux in
192 leads, ii) effect of snow-cover on the air-sea ice CO₂ flux over thin, young ice in the

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217 Arctic Ocean during winter and spring seasons, and iii) of the effect of the temperature
218 difference between sea ice and atmosphere (including snow cover) on the air–sea ice
219 CO₂ flux.

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222 2 Materials and Methods

223

224 2.1 Study area

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226 This study was performed during N-ICE2015 campaign with R/V Lance in the pack ice
227 north of Svalbard from January to June 2015 (Granskog et al., 2016). Air–sea ice CO₂
228 flux measurements were carried out from January to May 2015 during the drift of floes
229 1, 2, and 3 of the N-ICE2015 campaign (Figures 1 and 2, Table 1). The ice pack was a
230 mixture of young ice, first-year ice and second-year ice (Granskog et al., 2017), the two
231 latter with a thick snow cover (Merkouriadi et al., 2017; Rösel et al., 2018). Air–sea ice
232 CO₂ flux measurements were done over young ice (YI stations), first-year ice (FI
233 stations), and old ice (multi-year ice) (OI station). In the N-ICE2015 study region modal
234 ice thickness was about 1.3–1.5 m and modal snow thickness was about 0.5 m (Rösel et
235 al., 2018). Formation of leads and their rapid refreezing provided us the opportunity to
236 examine air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes over thin sea ice, occasionally covered with frost
237 flowers at station YII (Figure 2 and Table 1). Air temperature and wind speed were
238 measured at a 10 m weather mast on the ice floe installed about 400 m away from R/V
239 Lance (Cohen et al., 2017).

240

241

242 2.2 CO₂ flux measurements

243

244 The air–sea ice CO₂ flux was measured with LI-COR 8100-104 chambers connected to
245 a LI-8100A soil CO₂ flux system (LI-COR Inc., USA) (Figure 2). This enclosed
246 chamber method has been widely applied over snow and sea ice (e.g., Schindlbacher et
247 al., 2007, Geilfus et al., 2015). Two chambers were connected in a closed loop to the
248 infrared gas analyzer (LI-8100A, LI-COR Inc., USA) to measure CO₂ concentration

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258 through the multiplexer (LI-8150, LI-COR Inc., USA) with an air pump rate at 3 L min⁻¹.
259 ¹. Power was supplied by a car battery (8012-254, Optima Batteries Inc., USA). Four
260 CO₂ standards (324–406 ppmv) traceable to the WMO scale (Inoue and Ishii, 2005)
261 were prepared to calibrate the CO₂ gas analyzer prior to the observations. CO₂ flux was
262 measured in the morning or in the afternoon during low-wind conditions (Table 2), to
263 minimize the effect of wind on the flux (Bain et al., 2005).

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265 One chamber was installed over undisturbed snow or frost flowers over the ice surface.
266 The chamber collar was inserted 5 cm into the snow and 1 cm into ice at frost flowers
267 site to avoid air leaks between inside and outside of chamber. The second chamber was
268 installed on bulk sea ice after removing the snow or frost flowers. Flux measurements
269 was begun immediately in order to minimize the changes of the ice surface condition. In
270 order to evaluate the effect of removing snow on sea ice surface temperature, ice surface
271 temperature was monitored during CO₂ flux measurements at station FI6. To measure
272 the sea ice surface temperature, temperature sensor (RTR 52, T & D Corp., Japan) was
273 installed in the top of the ice (1 cm) surface after snow removal. During first CO₂ flux
274 measurements (about 30 minutes), ice surface temperature was stable at -5.8°C,
275 suggesting that the effect of removing snow on the variation of sea ice surface
276 temperature was negligible within 30 minutes. The ice surface temperature decreased
277 from -5.8°C to -8.0°C at 200 minutes after removal of snow. Therefore, in this paper,
278 the data of the initial 30 minutes of CO₂ flux measurement after removal of snow or
279 frost flowers was used. The chamber was closed for 20 minutes in a sequence. The 20-
280 minute time period was used because CO₂ fluxes over sea ice are much smaller than
281 over land. The CO₂ concentrations within the chamber were monitored to ensure that
282 they changed linearly throughout the measurement period (example given in Figure 3).
283 The CO₂ flux (mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) (positive value indicates CO₂ being released from ice
284 surface to air) was calculated based on the changes of the CO₂ concentration within the
285 headspace of the chamber with LI-COR software (Model: LI8100PC Client v.3.0.1.).
286 The mean coefficient of variation for CO₂ flux measurements was less than 3.0% for
287 CO₂ flux values larger than ±0.1 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹. For CO₂ flux values smaller than
288 ±0.1 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹, the mean coefficient of variation for CO₂ flux measurements

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293 was higher than 3.0%, suggesting that the detection limit of this system is about 0.1
294 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹.

295
296 In this paper, we express the CO₂ flux measured over the snow and frost flowers as
297 F_{snow} and F_{ff}, respectively, and the flux measured directly over the sea ice surface either
298 on snow-free ice or after removal of snow and frost flowers as F_{ice}. F_{snow} and F_{ff} are the
299 natural flux (snow and frost flowers are part of the natural system), and F_{ice} is the
300 potential flux in cases when snow or frost flowers are removed. While removal of snow
301 and frost flowers is an artificial situation, comparisons between F_{ice} and F_{snow} or F_{ff}
302 provide information about the effect of snow on the CO₂ flux. Therefore, in this study,
303 we examine both situations for CO₂ flux.

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306 2.3 Sampling of snow, frost flowers, brine, and sea ice

307

308 For salinity measurements, ~~separate samples were taken for snow only, snow and frost~~
309 ~~flowers, and sea ice surface scrapes. The samples were taken using a plastic shovel,~~
310 ~~placed into plastic bags and stored in an insulated box for transport to the ship-lab for~~
311 ~~further processing. Samples were melted slowly (2–3 days) in the dark at +4°C. The~~
312 ~~temperature of the snow and frost flowers samples were measured during CO₂ flux~~
313 ~~measurements (approximately 60 minutes after the onset of the CO₂ flux measurement)~~
314 using a needle-type temperature sensor (Testo 110 NTC, Brandt Instruments, Inc.,
315 USA). ~~The accuracy of this sensor is ±0.2°C. Snow density was obtained using a fixed~~
316 volume sampler (Climate Engineering, Japan) and weight measurement. The depth of
317 the snow pack and frost flowers was also recorded using a ruler.

318

319 Brine was ~~also collected at stations FI3–6 for salinity, dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC)~~
320 ~~and total alkalinity (TA) measurements. Brine was collected from sackholes as~~
321 ~~described in Gleitz et al. (1995). The sackholes were drilled using a 9 cm diameter ice~~
322 ~~corer (Mark II coring system, Kovacs Enterprises, Inc., USA) to a depth of 30 cm. The~~
323 sackholes were ~~then~~ covered with a lid of 5 cm-thick urethane to reduce heat and gas
324 transfer between brine and atmosphere. When ~~brine~~ accumulated at the bottom of the

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366 | sackholes (approximately 15 minutes), it was collected with a plastic syringe (AS ONE
367 | Corporation, Japan) and kept in 500 mL unbreakable plastic bottles (I-Boy, AS ONE
368 | Corporation, Japan) in order to facilitate safe transport to the sampling sites in cold and
369 | harsh conditions. The brine bottles were filled without head-space and immediately
370 | stored in an insulated box to prevent freezing. Immediately after return to the ship, the
371 | brine samples were transferred to 250 mL borosilicate bottles (DURAN Group GmbH,
372 | Germany) for DIC and TA measurements using tubing to prevent contact with air. The
373 | samples were preserved with saturated mercuric chloride (HgCl₂, 60 µL for a 250 mL
374 | sample) and stored in the dark at +10°C until analyses was performed at the Institute of
375 | Marine Research, Norway.

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377 | Sea ice was collected by same ice corer as described for brine collection and at the same
378 | location as snow and frost flowers were collected. Sea ice temperature was measured by
379 | same sensor as described for snow. For the ice cores, the temperature sensor was
380 | inserted in small holes drilled into the core. The core was then cut with a stainless steel
381 | saw into 10 cm sections and stored in plastic bags for subsequent salinity measurements.
382 | The ice core sections were kept at +4°C and melted in the dark prior to measurement.

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385 | 2.4 Sample analysis

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387 | Salinities for melted snow, frost flowers, sea ice, and brine were measured with a
388 | conductivity sensor (Cond 315i, WTW GmbH, Germany). For calibration of salinity
389 | measurement, a Guildline PORTASAL salinometer Model 8410A, standardized by
390 | International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO) standard
391 | seawater (Ocean Scientific International Ltd, UK) was used. Accuracy of this sensor
392 | was ±0.003.

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394 | Analytical methods for DIC and TA determination are fully described in Dickson et al.
395 | (2007). DIC in brine was determined using gas extraction of acidified sample followed
396 | by coulometric titration and photometric detection using a Versatile Instrument for the
397 | Determination of Titration carbonate (VINDTA 3C, Germany). TA of brine was

430 determined by potentiometric titration of 40 mL sample in open cell with 0.05 N
431 hydrochloric acid using a Titrino system (Metrohm, Switzerland). The average standard
432 deviation for DIC and TA, determined from replicate sample analyses from one sample,
433 was within $\pm 2 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ for both DIC and TA. Accuracy of the DIC and TA
434 measurements were $\pm 2 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ for both DIC and TA estimated using Certified
435 Reference Materials (CRM, provided by A. G. Dickson, Scripps Institution of
436 Oceanography, USA). The pCO_2 of brine ($\text{pCO}_{2\text{b}}$) was derived from in situ temperature,
437 salinity, DIC and TA of brine using the carbonate speciation program CO2SYS (Pierrot
438 et al., 2006). We used the carbonate dissociation constants (K_1 and K_2) of Mehrbach et
439 al. (1973) as refit by Dickson and Millero (1987), and the KSO_4 determined by Dickson
440 (1990). The conditional stability constants used to derived pCO_2 are strictly only valid
441 for temperatures above 0 °C and salinities between 5 and 50. Studies in spring ice
442 indicated that seawater thermodynamic relationships may be acceptable in warm and
443 low-salinity sea ice (Delille et al., 2007). In sea ice brines at even moderate brine
444 salinities of 80, Brown et al. (2014) found that measured and calculated values of the
445 CO_2 system parameters can differ by as much as 40%. On the other hand, because the
446 CO_2 system parameters are much more variable in sea ice than in seawater, sea ice
447 measurements demand less precision than those in seawater. Fransson et al. (2015)
448 performed one of few detailed analyses of the internal consistency using four sets of
449 dissociation constants and found that the deviation between measured and calculated
450 DIC varied between ± 6 and $\pm 11 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$, respectively. This error in calculated DIC
451 was considered insignificant in relation to the natural variability in sea ice.

452
453 The pCO_2 of atmosphere was calculated from CO_2 concentration (ppmv) at Ny-Ålesund,
454 Svalbard (<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/iadv/>) taking into account saturated water
455 vapor and atmospheric pressure during sampling day.

456
457 The water equivalent was computed for snow by multiplying snow thickness by snow
458 density (Jonas et al., 2009). Brine volume of sea ice was calculated from the
459 temperature and salinity of sea ice according to Cox and Weeks (1983) and Petrich and
460 Eicken (2010).

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3 Results

3.1 Air temperature

Air temperature is shown in Figure 4. During the study period, air temperature varied significantly from a low of -41.3°C (30 January) to a high of $+1.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ (15 June) (Hudson et al., 2015). Even in wintertime (from January to March), rapid increases of air temperature from below -30°C up to -0.2°C (e.g., 18 February), were observed. In springtime (from April to June), the air temperature increased continuously, and from 1 June, air temperatures were near 0°C , although rapid increases (and subsequent decreases) of air temperature to near 0°C were observed on two occasions in mid-May (Cohen et al., 2017).

3.2 Characteristics of snow, sea ice, and frost flowers

The snow and ice thickness at the observation sites ranged between 0.0 and 60.0 cm and between 15.0 and >200 cm, respectively (Table 1). The thin snow and ice represent newly formed ice in leads at station YII. The thickness of the frost flowers ranged from 1.0 to 2.5 cm.

Figure 5 shows vertical profiles of snow and ice temperature and salinity in the top 20 cm of ice. Temperatures within the snowpack depended on the air temperature at the time of observation. However, the bottom of the snow and the surface of the sea ice were relatively warm ($T > -7.5^{\circ}\text{C}$), except for the frost flowers station YII and the multi-year ice station OII (Figure 5a and Table 2). High salinities ($S > 18.6$) characterized the bottom of the snow and the surface of the sea ice, except for the multi-year ice station OII (Figure 5b). At the multi-year ice station OII, salinity was zero through the snow and top of sea ice. Salinity of frost flowers was up to 92.8 for the thin ice station YII (Figure 5b). Snow density and water equivalent ranged from 268 to 400 kg m^{-3} and 11 to 180 kg m^{-2} , respectively.

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3.3 Physical and chemical properties of brine

The brine volume fraction, temperature, salinity, DIC, TA, and calculated pCO₂ are summarized in Table 2. Brine volume fraction in top 20 cm of ice was from 9 to 17%, except for the value of 0% at the multi-year ice station OI1 (Table 2). Brine temperatures and salinity ranged from -5.3 to -3.3°C and 51.8 to 86.6, respectively. DIC and TA of brine ranged from 3261 to 4841 μmol kg⁻¹ and 3518 to 5539 μmol kg⁻¹, respectively. The pCO₂ of brine (pCO_{2b}) (334–693 μatm) was generally higher than that of atmosphere (pCO_{2a}) (401 ± 7 μatm), except for station FI4.

3.4 CO₂ flux

Table 3 summarizes the CO₂ flux measurements for each surface condition. For undisturbed natural surface conditions, i.e. measurements directly on the snow surface (F_{snow}) or the frost flowers (F_{ff}) on young ice, the mean CO₂ flux was +0.2 ± 0.2 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for F_{snow} and +1.0 ± 0.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for F_{ff}. The potential flux in cases when snow or frost flowers had been removed (F_{ice}) was +2.5 ± 4.3 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹. The air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes measured over the ice surface (F_{ice}) increased with increasing difference in pCO₂ between brine and atmosphere (ΔpCO_{2b-a}) with significant correlation (R² = 0.9, p < 0.02), but this was not the case for F_{snow} (R² = 0.0, p < 0.96) (Figure 6).

4 Discussion

4.1 Effect of snow cover on the physical properties of sea ice surface

532 | In this study, we examined CO₂ fluxes between sea ice and atmosphere in a variety of
533 | air temperature conditions from –32 to –3°C and diverse snow and ice conditions (Table
534 | 2). The bottom of the snow pack and the surface of the sea ice remained relatively warm
535 | (>–7.5°C) (Figure 5a, Table 2), except for stations OI1 and YII, even though air
536 | temperature was sometimes below –40°C (Figure 4). Relatively warm ice temperatures
537 | were likely due to the upward heat transport from the bottom of the ice and in some
538 | cases the thick insulating snow cover, except for stations OI1 and YII, (Table 2).
539 | Therefore, snow acted as thermal insulator over sea ice, and in general the snow depths
540 | observed during N-ICE2015 point towards this being representative for first-year and
541 | second-year or older ice in the study region in winter 2015 (Rösel et al., 2018). The
542 | young and first-year ice surfaces were characterized by high salinities (Figure 5b).
543 | During sea ice formation, upward brine transport to the snow pack occurs (e.g., Toyota
544 | et al., 2011). In addition, brine within the sea ice was not completely drained as
545 | compared to that of multi-year ice. Furthermore, formation of frost flowers and
546 | subsequent wicking up of surface brine into the frost flowers also provides high salinity
547 | at the surface of sea ice (Kaleschke et al., 2004; Geilfus et al., 2013; Barber et al., 2014;
548 | Fransson et al., 2015) as observed in this study (S>92) (Figure 5b). Snowfall over the
549 | frost flowers would have preserved the high salinity at the bottom of snow pack and top
550 | of sea ice for young and first-year ice.

551 |
552 | As a result of the combination of the relatively high temperature and high salinity at the
553 | top of sea ice, brine volume fractions in the upper parts of the sea ice were high, up to
554 | 17% (Table 2). It has been shown that ice permeability increases by an order of
555 | magnitude when brine volume fraction > 5%, which would correspond to a temperature
556 | of –5°C for a bulk ice salinity of 5 – the so called “law of fives” (Golden et al., 1998;
557 | Pringle et al., 2009; Zhou et al., 2013). Because sea ice temperatures were low and
558 | thereby reduced permeability in winter season, generally, air–sea ice CO₂ flux is at its
559 | minimum in the winter (e.g., Delille et al., 2014). However, in our study, the brine
560 | volume fractions were generally >9%, except for station OI1 with fresh ice at the
561 | surface, providing conditions for active gas exchange within sea ice and between sea ice
562 | and atmosphere. This situation was likely made possible due to the thick snow cover
563 | and relatively thin and young sea ice.

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4.2 CO₂ fluxes over different sea-ice surface types

The CO₂ flux measurements over different surface conditions indicate that the snow cover over sea ice affects the magnitude of air–sea ice CO₂ flux, especially for stations FI5 and FI6 (Table 3). For undisturbed natural surface conditions, the CO₂ flux measured directly over snow-covered first-year ice and young ice with frost flowers (F_{snow} and F_{ff}) was lower in magnitude than that for potential flux obtained directly over the ice surface after removing snow (F_{ice}), especially for stations FI5, FI6, and Y11. F_{ff} indicates that the frost flowers surface on young thin ice is a CO₂ source to the atmosphere and F_{ff} was higher than F_{snow} , except for station FI1. Frost flowers are known to promote gas flux, such as CO₂, from the sea ice to the atmosphere (Geilfus et al., 2013; Barber et al., 2014; Fransson et al., 2015). At multi-year ice station OI1, neither snow or ice surface acted as a CO₂ source/sink. The surface of multi-year ice did not contain any brine (Figure 5b and Table 2), and the top of the ice was clear, colorless and very hard, suggesting superimposed formation at the top of sea ice. This situation would be similar as for freshwater-ice and superimposed-ice as these non-porous media block gas exchange effectively at the sea ice surface (Delille et al., 2014). Snow-ice and superimposed-ice were frequently found in second-year ice cores during N-ICE2015 (Granskog et al., 2017), so the ‘blocking’ of gas exchange in second-year and multi-year ice may be a widespread process in the Arctic.

The magnitude of positive F_{snow} is less than F_{ice} for stations FI5 and FI6 (Table 3) indicating that the potential CO₂ flux from sea ice decreased due to the presence of snow. Previous studies have shown that snow accumulation over sea ice effectively impede CO₂ exchange (Nomura et al., 2013; Brown et al., 2015). Nomura et al. (2013) reported that 50–90% of the potential CO₂ flux was reduced due to the presence of snow/superimposed-ice at the water equivalent of 57–400 kg m⁻², indicating that the snow properties are an important factor that controls the CO₂ exchange through a snowpack. Comparisons between stations FI5 and FI6 for $F_{\text{snow}}/F_{\text{ice}}$ ratio (0.2 for FI5

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618 and 0.0 for FI6) and water equivalent (11 kg m⁻² for FI5 and 127 kg m⁻² for FI6)
619 indicate that the potential CO₂ flux is reduced (80% for FI5 and 98% for FI6 of the
620 potential CO₂ flux) with increasing water equivalent. Although the magnitude of the
621 potential CO₂ flux through the sea ice surface decreased by the presence of snow for
622 stations FI5 and FI6 (Table 3), the snow surface still presents a CO₂ source to the
623 atmosphere for low snow density and shallow depth conditions (e.g., +0.6 mmol C m⁻²
624 day⁻¹ for FI5).

625
626 For F_{ice}, there were negative CO₂ fluxes at stations FI3 and FI4 (-0.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹
627 for FI3 and -0.8 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for FI4) (Table 3). These fluxes corresponded to low
628 or negative ΔpCO_{2 b-a} as compared to that in atmosphere (Table 2 and Figure 6).
629 Negative CO₂ fluxes should correspond to negative ΔpCO_{2 b-a}. Therefore, the
630 uncertainty for the calculation of carbonate chemistry may be one reason for the
631 discrepancy in pCO₂ calculation in these conditions (Brown et al., 2014).

634 4.3 Comparison to earlier studies on sea-ice to air CO₂ flux

635
636 The CO₂ fluxes measured over the undisturbed natural surface conditions (F_{snow} and F_{ff})
637 in this study ranged from +0.1 to +1.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ (Table 3), which are at the
638 lower end of the reported range based on the chamber method and eddy covariance
639 method for natural and artificial sea ice (-259.2 to +74.3 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹)
640 (Zemmelink et al., 2006; Nomura et al., 2006, 2010a, 2010b, 2013; Miller et al., 2011;
641 Papakyriakou and Miller, 2011; Geilfus et al., 2012, 2013; 2014; Barber et al., 2014;
642 Delille et al., 2014; Sørensen et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015; Kotovitch et al., 2016).
643 Direct comparison to previous studies is complicated because CO₂ flux measurements
644 with both chamber and eddy covariance techniques were used during different condition
645 for season and ice surface characteristics. In addition, discrepancies between chamber
646 and eddy covariance measurements of air-ice CO₂ fluxes have been repeatedly observed.
647 The footprint size of CO₂ exchange measured with the two approaches (Zemmelink et
648 al., 2006, 2008; Burba et al., 2008; Amiro, 2010; Miller et al., 2011; Papakyriakou and
649 Miller, 2011; Sørensen et al., 2014; Miller et al., 2015) may be one reason for the large

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657 difference. The eddy covariance method reflects a flux integrated over a large area, that
658 can contain several different surface types. Therefore, eddy-covariance appears to be
659 more useful for understanding fluxes at large spatial and temporal scales. On the other
660 hand, the chamber method reflects the area where chamber was covered, and it is useful
661 for understanding the relationship between fluxes and ice surface conditions on smaller
662 scales. The different spatial scales of the two methods may be therefore one reason for
663 the discrepancy in CO₂ flux measurements.

665 Comparison of the natural CO₂ flux range (+0.1 to +1.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for F_{snow} and
666 F_{ff}) (Table 3) with previous estimates derived from the chamber method (-5.2 to +6.7
667 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) (Nomura et al., 2006, 2010a, 2010b, 2013; Geilfus et al., 2012,
668 2013; 2014; Barber et al., 2014; Delille et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015; Kotovitch et al.,
669 2016) (these studies include both natural and potential fluxes) shows that CO₂ fluxes
670 during NICE2015 experiment are at the lower end of positive values. However, our
671 potential CO₂ flux (F_{ice}) was a larger CO₂ source (up to +11.8 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) than
672 reported in previous studies (+6.7 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹). In our study, the maximum
673 potential flux (e.g., +11.8 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) was obtained for F_{ice} at station FI6 (Table
674 3). In this situation, ΔpCO_{2 b-a} (293 μatm) was the highest (Table 2 and Figure 6), and it
675 is reasonable to consider this as the highest magnitude of positive CO₂ flux within our
676 study. However, a previous study by closed chamber method showed that even for a
677 similar ΔpCO_{2 b-a} (297 μatm) and magnitude for the brine volume fraction (10–15%),
678 the CO₂ flux was +0.7 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for artificial sea ice with no snow in the tank
679 experiment (Nomura et al., 2006).

681 The CO₂ flux between the sea ice and overlying air can be expressed by the following
682 equation,

$$684 F_{\text{CO}_2} = r_b k \alpha \Delta p\text{CO}_{2\text{ b-a}},$$

686 where r_b is the ratio of surface of the brine channel to sea ice surface, and we assume
687 that the value of r_b is equal to brine volume fraction, k is the gas transfer velocity, α is
688 the solubility of CO₂ (Weiss, 1974), and ΔpCO_{2 b-a} is the difference in pCO₂ between

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708 brine and atmosphere. The equation is based on the fact that CO₂ transfer between
709 seawater and air is controlled by processes in the near-surface water (Liss, 1973). The
710 gas transfer velocity (k) calculated from F, r_b, α and ΔpCO_{2 b-a} was 5.12 m day⁻¹ for F_{ice}
711 at station FI6 and 0.29 m day⁻¹ for the tank experiment examined in Nomura et al.
712 (2006). This result clearly indicates that the gas transfer velocity for F_{ice} at station FI6 is
713 higher than that of tank experiment examined in Nomura et al. (2006) even with very
714 similar ΔpCO_{2 b-a} and brine volume fraction.

715
716 Here, we surmise that the gas transfer velocity and thereby CO₂ flux is greatly enhanced
717 by the temperature difference between sea ice surface and atmosphere. Previous studies
718 indicate that there is an unstable air density gradient in a dry snowpack due to basal
719 heating and the strong temperature difference develops between bottom and top of snow
720 (e.g., Powers et al., 1985; Severinghaus et al., 2010), which enhances the flow of air
721 through the snowpack. We propose that the mixing and transport of gas within the
722 snowpack could also occur over sea ice. Because temperatures at the bottom of snow
723 and the top of sea ice were relatively warm due to a thick insulating snow over sea ice,
724 there was a strong temperature difference between sea ice surface and atmosphere when
725 air temperature was low (Figure 5a and Table 2). For station FI6, temperature difference
726 between sea ice surface and atmosphere was 20.2°C after snow removal. On the other
727 hand, in the tank experiment by Nomura et al. (2006), the temperature difference
728 between sea ice surface (top 1.5 cm) and air in the headspace was only 4.5°C.

729
730 Figure 6 shows the relationship between mean air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes and temperature
731 difference between ice and atmosphere. The strong dependence of CO₂ flux with
732 temperature difference (T_{ice}–T_a) was observed, especially for F_{ff} and F_{ice} (R² > 0.7, p <
733 0.01) (Figure 6). Due to the high brine volume fractions (Table 2), sea ice surface had
734 enough permeability for gas exchange. In addition, ice temperatures were similar for
735 young and first-year ice (Figure 6, Table 2), indicating that pCO₂ at the top of sea ice
736 and CO₂ flux would be of similar order of magnitude if thermodynamic processes
737 dominated. Therefore, our results suggest that the CO₂ fluxes even over the frost
738 flowers as a natural condition, would be enhanced by the upward transport of air
739 containing high CO₂ from the surface of sea ice to the atmosphere due to the strong

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745 temperature difference between sea ice surface and atmosphere. Although the presence
746 of snow on sea ice has potential to produce a larger temperature difference between sea
747 ice surface and atmosphere and promote the upward transport, the magnitude of the CO₂
748 flux decreased due to the presence of snow. However, for young sea ice with frost
749 flowers (e.g., station Y11), ice surface temperature was warm (Table 2), suggesting that
750 CO₂ flux would be enhanced by the large temperature difference between sea ice
751 surface and atmosphere.

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755 5 Conclusions

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757 We measured CO₂ fluxes along with sea ice and snow physical and chemical properties
758 over first-year and young sea ice north of Svalbard in the Arctic pack ice. Our results
759 suggest that young thin snow-free ice, with or without frost flowers, is a source of
760 atmospheric CO₂ due to the high pCO₂ and salinity and relatively high sea ice
761 temperature. Although the potential CO₂ flux from sea-ice surface decreased due to the
762 presence of snow, snow surface still presents a modest CO₂ source to the atmosphere
763 for low snow density and shallow depth situations. The highest ice to air fluxes were
764 observed over thin young sea ice formed in leads. During N-ICE2015 the ice pack was
765 dynamic, and formation of open water was associated with storms, where new ice was
766 formed. The subsequent ice growth in these leads becomes important for the ice-to-air
767 CO₂ fluxes in winter due to the fact that the flux from young ice is an order of
768 magnitude larger than from snow-covered first-year and older ice.

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772 6 Data availability

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774 Data used in this paper will be available at Norwegian Polar Data Centre
775 (data.npolar.no).

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1071 **Figure captions**
1072
1073 Figure 1. Location map of the sampling area north of Svalbard during N-ICE2015.
1074 Image of the sea ice concentrations (a) and station map (b) were derived from Special
1075 Sensor Microwave Imager (SSM/I) satellite data for mean of February 2015 and from
1076 Sentinel-1 (Synthetic Aperture Radar Sensor) satellite data, respectively.
1077
1078 Figure 2. Photographs of the CO₂ flux chamber system at station YII north of Svalbard
1079 on Friday 13 March 2015. CO₂ flux chamber was installed over the frost flowers on the
1080 new thin ice in the refreezing lead.
1081
1082 Figure 3. Example of the temporal variation in CO₂ concentration (Δ CO₂) in the
1083 chambers installed at station YII that is use to calculate the CO₂ flux. Δ CO₂ indicates
1084 the change in CO₂ concentration inside the chamber since the chamber was closed.

1085
1086 Figure 4. Time series of air temperature measured at the weather mast over the ice floe
1087 (10 m height) (Hudson et al., 2015). Blank period indicates no data. Colored symbols
1088 indicate the date for the chamber flux measurements. The horizontal dashed line
1089 indicates air temperature = 0°C.

1090
1091 Figure 5. Vertical profiles of temperature (a) and salinity (b) in snow and sea ice (top 20
1092 cm). The horizontal line indicates snow–ice interface. Shaded area indicates sea ice. The
1093 triangle in (a) indicates the air temperature for each station. For stations FI7 and YI2
1094 and 3, we have no salinity data.

1095
1096 Figure 6. Relationships between mean air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes and temperature
1097 difference between ice (T_{ice}) and atmosphere (T_a) (circle) and ice temperature (T_{ice})
1098 (top 20 cm) (cross) for F_{snow} (blue), F_{ff} (black) and F_{ice} (red) for young and first-year sea
1099 ice. Relationships between mean air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes and the difference of pCO₂
1100 (ΔpCO₂_{b-a}) between brine (pCO₂_b) and atmosphere (pCO₂_a) (triangle) for F_{snow} (solid
1101 gray) and F_{ice} (open gray). ▼

1104 Table captions

1105
1106 Table 1. Station, date for CO₂ flux measurement, position, floe number, surface
1107 condition, ice type and thickness of snow, frost flowers, and sea ice.

1108
1109 a. Sea ice coring and snow sampling was conducted on 5 March 2015.

1110
1111 b. Sea ice coring and snow sampling was conducted on 10 March 2015.

1112
1113
1114 Table 2. Station, snow density and water equivalent, brine volume fraction, and
1115 temperature for sea ice (top 20 cm), brine temperature, salinity, DIC, TA, pCO₂ (pCO₂
1116 b), and atmospheric temperature, wind speed, pCO₂ (pCO₂_a)^a and ΔpCO₂_{b-a}.

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1123 | a. $p\text{CO}_2\text{a}$ (μatm) was calculated from CO_2 concentration (ppmv) at Ny-Ålesund,
1124 | Svalbard (<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/iadv/>) taking into account saturated water
1125 | vapor and atmospheric pressure during sampling day.

1126 |
1127 | b. Mean values for snow column.

1128 |
1129 | c. "-" indicates no data. Due to technical reasons, data of snow, sea ice, and brine were
1130 | not obtained.

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1131 |
1132 |
1133 | Table 3. CO_2 flux measured over the snow (F_{snow}), frost flowers (F_{ff}), and ice surface
1134 | (F_{ice}). Values measured directly over undisturbed surfaces (either with frost flowers or
1135 | on snow surface) at a given station are indicated in bold.

1136 |
1137 | a. Data of first CO_2 flux measurement after removal of snow or frost flowers.

1138 |
1139 | b. "-" indicates no data.

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1141 | c. Number of measurements in bracket.

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1143 | Data from station OI1 was not included.

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1 **CO₂ flux over young and snow-covered Arctic pack ice in**
2 **winter and spring**

3

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36

37

38 **Abstract**

39

40 Rare CO₂ flux measurements from Arctic pack ice show that two types of ice are
41 significant contributors to the release of CO₂ from ice to the atmosphere during winter
42 and spring: young thin ice with thin layer of snow, and old (several weeks) snow
43 covered thick ice. Young thin sea ice is characterized by high salinity and then porosity
44 and thin layer of snow. Snow covered thick ice can remain relatively warm ($>-7.5^{\circ}\text{C}$)
45 due to a thick insulating snow cover despite air temperatures were as low as -40°C .
46 Brine volume fractions of these two ice type are therefore high enough to provide
47 favorable conditions for gas exchange between sea ice and the atmosphere even in mid-
48 winter. Although the potential CO₂ flux from sea ice decreased due to the presence of
49 the snow, the snow surface is still a CO₂ source to the atmosphere for low snow density
50 and thin snow conditions. We found that young sea ice formed in leads, without snow
51 cover, is the most effective in terms of CO₂ flux ($+1.0 \pm 0.6 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$) since
52 the fluxes are an order of magnitude higher than for snow-covered older ice ($+0.2 \pm 0.2$
53 $\text{mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$).

54

55

56

57 **1 Introduction**

58

59 Arctic sea ice is changing dramatically, with rapid declines in summer sea ice extent
60 and a shift towards younger and thinner first-year ice rather than thick multi-year ice
61 (e.g., Stroeve et al., 2012; Meier et al., 2014; Lindsay and Schweiger, 2015). Although
62 the effects of sea ice formation and melting on biogeochemical cycles in the ocean have
63 previously been discussed (e.g., Vancoppenolle et al., 2013), the effects of sea ice
64 freezing and melting on the carbon dioxide (CO₂) exchange with the atmosphere are
65 still large unknowns (Parmentier et al., 2013).

66

67 Recent CO₂ flux measurements on sea ice indicate that sea ice is an active component in
68 gas exchange between ocean and atmosphere (Nomura et al., 2013; Geilfus et al., 2013;
69 2014; Delille et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015; Kotovitch et al., 2016). The sea-ice CO₂

70 fluxes depend on (a) the difference in the partial pressure of CO₂ (pCO₂) between the
71 sea ice surface and air, (b) brine volume fraction at the ice-snow interface, (c) ice
72 surface condition including the snow deposited on ice, and (d) wind-driven pressure
73 pumping through the snow. For (a), it is known that the air–sea ice CO₂ flux is driven
74 by the differences in pCO₂ between the sea ice surface and atmosphere (e.g. Delille et
75 al., 2014; Geilfus et al., 2014). The brine pCO₂ changes due to processes within the sea
76 ice, such as thermodynamic process (e.g., Delille et al., 2014), biological activity (e.g.,
77 Delille et al., 2007; Fransson et al., 2013; Rysgaard et al., 2013), and calcium carbonate
78 (CaCO₃; ikaite) formation and dissolution (e.g., Papadimitriou et al., 2012). When the
79 pCO₂ in the brine is higher than that of the air pCO₂, brine has the potential to release
80 CO₂ to the atmosphere. Brine volume fraction (b) controls permeability of sea ice
81 (Golden et al. 1998) and then CO₂ fluxes (Delille et al. 2014; Geilfus et al 2014). The
82 air–sea ice CO₂ flux is strongly dependent on the sea ice surface conditions (c) (Nomura
83 et al., 2010a, 2013; Geilfus et al., 2013; 2014; Barber et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015;
84 Fransson et al., 2015). Nomura et al. (2013) proposed that snow conditions (e.g., water
85 equivalent) are important factors affecting gas exchange processes on sea ice. In
86 addition, frost flowers promote CO₂ flux from the ice to the atmosphere (Geilfus et al.,
87 2013; Barber et al., 2014; Fransson et al., 2015). For (d), it is thought that for snow
88 cover, the CO₂ flux is affected by wind pumping (Massman et al., 1995; Takagi et al.,
89 2005) in which the magnitude of CO₂ flux through snow or overlying soil (e.g., Takagi
90 et al., 2005) increases due to wind pumping and can increase the transport relative to
91 molecular diffusion by up to 40% (Bowling and Massman, 2011). These results were
92 mainly found over land-based snow (soil and forest), and thus these processes are not
93 well understood over sea ice (Papakyriakou and Miller, 2011).

94

95 In addition to the processes described above, the CO₂ flux over sea ice may also be
96 influenced by the temperature difference between the ice surface and the atmosphere.
97 This has been shown in previous studies in dry snowpacks over land surfaces. These
98 studies show that there is an unstable air density gradient due to heating at the bottom
99 producing a strong temperature difference between bottom and top of snow (e.g.,
100 Powers et al., 1985; Severinghaus et al., 2010). This produces air flow within the
101 snowpack, which is a potentially significant contributor to mixing and transport of gas

102 and heat within the snowpack. We expect that this process would also occur in snow
103 over sea ice, especially during the wintertime when air temperatures are coldest and the
104 temperature difference between sea ice surface (snow bottom) and atmosphere is largest
105 (e.g., Massom et al., 2001). Generally, the sea ice surface under thick snow cover is
106 warm due to the heat conduction from the bottom of sea ice and the insulation effect of
107 the snow cover, and a strong temperature difference between sea ice surface and
108 atmosphere is observed (e.g., Massom et al., 2001). Such a temperature difference
109 would produce an unstable air density gradient and upward transport of air containing
110 CO₂ degassed at the sea-ice surface, thereby enhancing CO₂ exchange between sea ice
111 and atmosphere.

112

113 In the ice covered Arctic Ocean, storm periods, with high wind speeds and open leads
114 are important for air-to-sea CO₂ fluxes (Fransson et al., 2017), due to the under-
115 saturation of the surface waters in CO₂ with respect to the atmosphere. On the other
116 hand, the subsequent ice growth and frost flowers formation in these leads promote ice-
117 to-air CO₂ fluxes in winter (e.g. Barber et al., 2014). Given the fact that Arctic sea ice is
118 shrinking and shifting from multi-year ice to first-year ice, the area of open ocean and
119 thinner seasonal ice is increasing. Therefore, the contribution of open ocean/thinner sea
120 ice surface to the overall CO₂ fluxes of the Arctic Ocean is potentially increasing.
121 However, due to the difficulty in acquiring observations over the winter pack ice, most
122 of the winter CO₂ flux measurements were examined over the Arctic landfast ice.
123 Therefore, there is a definite lack of information on conditions during wintertime,
124 especially from Arctic pack ice.

125

126 The Norwegian young sea ICE (N-ICE2015) campaign in winter and spring 2015
127 provided opportunities to examine CO₂ fluxes between sea ice and atmosphere in a
128 variety of snow and ice conditions in pack ice north of Svalbard. Formation of leads and
129 their rapid refreezing allowed us to examine air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes over thin young sea
130 ice, occasionally covered with frost flowers in addition to the snow-covered older ice
131 that covers most of the pack ice area. The objectives of this study were to understand
132 the effects of i) thin sea ice and frost flowers formations on the air–sea ice CO₂ flux in
133 leads, ii) effect of snow-cover on the air–sea ice CO₂ flux over thin, young ice in the

134 Arctic Ocean during winter and spring seasons, and iii) of the effect of the temperature
135 difference between sea ice and atmosphere (including snow cover) on the air–sea ice
136 CO₂ flux.

137

138

139 **2 Materials and Methods**

140

141 **2.1 Study area**

142

143 This study was performed during N-ICE2015 campaign with R/V Lance in the pack ice
144 north of Svalbard from January to June 2015 (Granskog et al., 2016). Air–sea ice CO₂
145 flux measurements were carried out from January to May 2015 during the drift of floes
146 1, 2, and 3 of the N-ICE2015 campaign (Figures 1 and 2, Table 1). The ice pack was a
147 mixture of young ice, first-year ice and second-year ice (Granskog et al., 2017), the two
148 latter with a thick snow cover (Merkouriadi et al., 2017; Rösel et al., 2018). Air–sea ice
149 CO₂ flux measurements were done over young ice (YI stations), first-year ice (FI
150 stations), and old ice (multi-year ice) (OI station). In the N-ICE2015 study region modal
151 ice thickness was about 1.3–1.5 m and modal snow thickness was about 0.5 m (Rösel et
152 al., 2018). Formation of leads and their rapid refreezing provided us the opportunity to
153 examine air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes over thin sea ice, occasionally covered with frost
154 flowers at station YI1 (Figure 2 and Table 1). Air temperature and wind speed were
155 measured at a 10 m weather mast on the ice floe installed about 400 m away from R/V
156 Lance (Cohen et al., 2017).

157

158

159 **2.2 CO₂ flux measurements**

160

161 The air–sea ice CO₂ flux was measured with LI-COR 8100-104 chambers connected to
162 a LI-8100A soil CO₂ flux system (LI-COR Inc., USA) (Figure 2). This enclosed
163 chamber method has been widely applied over snow and sea ice (e.g., Schindlbacher et
164 al., 2007, Geilfus et al., 2015). Two chambers were connected in a closed loop to the
165 infrared gas analyzer (LI-8100A, LI-COR Inc., USA) to measure CO₂ concentration

166 through the multiplexer (LI-8150, LI-COR Inc., USA) with an air pump rate at 3 L min⁻¹.
167 Power was supplied by a car battery (8012-254, Optima Batteries Inc., USA). Four
168 CO₂ standards (324–406 ppmv) traceable to the WMO scale (Inoue and Ishii, 2005)
169 were prepared to calibrate the CO₂ gas analyzer prior to the observations. CO₂ flux was
170 measured in the morning or in the afternoon during low-wind conditions (Table 2), to
171 minimize the effect of wind on the flux (Bain et al., 2005).

172

173 One chamber was installed over undisturbed snow or frost flowers over the ice surface.
174 The chamber collar was inserted 5 cm into the snow and 1 cm into ice at frost flowers
175 site to avoid air leaks between inside and outside of chamber. The second chamber was
176 installed on bulk sea ice after removing the snow or frost flowers. Flux measurements
177 was begun immediately in order to minimize the changes of the ice surface condition. In
178 order to evaluate the effect of removing snow on sea ice surface temperature, ice surface
179 temperature was monitored during CO₂ flux measurements at station FI6. To measure
180 the sea ice surface temperature, temperature sensor (RTR 52, T & D Corp., Japan) was
181 installed in the top of the ice (1 cm) surface after snow removal. During first CO₂ flux
182 measurements (about 30 minutes), ice surface temperature was stable at -5.8°C ,
183 suggesting that the effect of removing snow on the variation of sea ice surface
184 temperature was negligible within 30 minutes. The ice surface temperature decreased
185 from -5.8°C to -8.0°C at 200 minutes after removal of snow. Therefore, in this paper,
186 the data of the initial 30 minutes of CO₂ flux measurement after removal of snow or
187 frost flowers was used. The chamber was closed for 20 minutes in a sequence. The 20-
188 minute time period was used because CO₂ fluxes over sea ice are much smaller than
189 over land. The CO₂ concentrations within the chamber were monitored to ensure that
190 they changed linearly throughout the measurement period (example given in Figure 3).
191 The CO₂ flux ($\text{mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$) (positive value indicates CO₂ being released from ice
192 surface to air) was calculated based on the changes of the CO₂ concentration within the
193 headspace of the chamber with LI-COR software (Model: LI8100PC Client v.3.0.1.).
194 The mean coefficient of variation for CO₂ flux measurements was less than 3.0% for
195 CO₂ flux values larger than $\pm 0.1 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$. For CO₂ flux values smaller than
196 $\pm 0.1 \text{ mmol C m}^{-2} \text{ day}^{-1}$, the mean coefficient of variation for CO₂ flux measurements

197 was higher than 3.0%, suggesting that the detection limit of this system is about 0.1
198 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹.

199

200 In this paper, we express the CO₂ flux measured over the snow and frost flowers as
201 F_{snow} and F_{ff}, respectively, and the flux measured directly over the sea ice surface either
202 on snow-free ice or after removal of snow and frost flowers as F_{ice}. F_{snow} and F_{ff} are the
203 natural flux (snow and frost flowers are part of the natural system), and F_{ice} is the
204 potential flux in cases when snow or frost flowers are removed. While removal of snow
205 and frost flowers is an artificial situation, comparisons between F_{ice} and F_{snow} or F_{ff}
206 provide information about the effect of snow on the CO₂ flux. Therefore, in this study,
207 we examine both situations for CO₂ flux.

208

209

210 **2.3 Sampling of snow, frost flowers, brine, and sea ice**

211

212 For salinity measurements, separate samples were taken for snow only, snow and frost
213 flowers, and sea ice surface scrapes. The samples were taken using a plastic shovel,
214 placed into plastic bags and stored in an insulated box for transport to the ship-lab for
215 further processing. Samples were melted slowly (2–3 days) in the dark at +4°C. The
216 temperature of the snow and frost flowers samples were measured during CO₂ flux
217 measurements (approximately 60 minutes after the onset of the CO₂ flux measurement)
218 using a needle-type temperature sensor (Testo 110 NTC, Brandt Instruments, Inc.,
219 USA). The accuracy of this sensor is ±0.2°C. Snow density was obtained using a fixed
220 volume sampler (Climate Engineering, Japan) and weight measurement. The depth of
221 the snow pack and frost flowers was also recorded using a ruler.

222

223 Brine was also collected at stations FI3–6 for salinity, dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC)
224 and total alkalinity (TA) measurements. Brine was collected from sackholes as
225 described in Gleitz et al. (1995). The sackholes were drilled using a 9 cm diameter ice
226 corer (Mark II coring system, Kovacs Enterprises, Inc., USA) to a depth of 30 cm. The
227 sackholes were then covered with a lid of 5 cm-thick urethane to reduce heat and gas
228 transfer between brine and atmosphere. When brine accumulated at the bottom of the

229 sackholes (approximately 15 minutes), it was collected with a plastic syringe (AS ONE
230 Corporation, Japan) and kept in 500 mL unbreakable plastic bottles (I-Boy, AS ONE
231 Corporation, Japan) in order to facilitate safe transport to the sampling sites in cold and
232 harsh conditions. The brine bottles were filled without head-space and immediately
233 stored in an insulated box to prevent freezing. Immediately after return to the ship, the
234 brine samples were transferred to 250 mL borosilicate bottles (DURAN Group GmbH,
235 Germany) for DIC and TA measurements using tubing to prevent contact with air. The
236 samples were preserved with saturated mercuric chloride (HgCl_2 , 60 μL for a 250 mL
237 sample) and stored in the dark at $+10^\circ\text{C}$ until analyses was performed at the Institute of
238 Marine Research, Norway.

239

240 Sea ice was collected by same ice corer as described for brine collection and at the same
241 location as snow and frost flowers were collected. Sea ice temperature was measured by
242 same sensor as described for snow. For the ice cores, the temperature sensor was
243 inserted in small holes drilled into the core. The core was then cut with a stainless steel
244 saw into 10 cm sections and stored in plastic bags for subsequent salinity measurements.
245 The ice core sections were kept at $+4^\circ\text{C}$ and melted in the dark prior to measurement.

246

247

248 **2.4 Sample analysis**

249

250 Salinities for melted snow, frost flowers, sea ice, and brine were measured with a
251 conductivity sensor (Cond 315i, WTW GmbH, Germany). For calibration of salinity
252 measurement, a Guildline PORTASAL salinometer Model 8410A, standardized by
253 International Association for the Physical Sciences of the Oceans (IAPSO) standard
254 seawater (Ocean Scientific International Ltd, UK) was used. Accuracy of this sensor
255 was ± 0.003 .

256

257 Analytical methods for DIC and TA determination are fully described in Dickson et al.
258 (2007). DIC in brine was determined using gas extraction of acidified sample followed
259 by coulometric titration and photometric detection using a Versatile Instrument for the
260 Determination of Titration carbonate (VINDTA 3C, Germany). TA of brine was

261 determined by potentiometric titration of 40 mL sample in open cell with 0.05 N
262 hydrochloric acid using a Titrino system (Metrohm, Switzerland). The average standard
263 deviation for DIC and TA, determined from replicate sample analyses from one sample,
264 was within $\pm 2 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ for both DIC and TA. Accuracy of the DIC and TA
265 measurements were $\pm 2 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$ for both DIC and TA estimated using Certified
266 Reference Materials (CRM, provided by A. G. Dickson, Scripps Institution of
267 Oceanography, USA). The pCO_2 of brine ($\text{pCO}_{2\text{b}}$) was derived from in situ temperature,
268 salinity, DIC and TA of brine using the carbonate speciation program CO2SYS (Pierrot
269 et al., 2006). We used the carbonate dissociation constants (K_1 and K_2) of Mehrbach et
270 al. (1973) as refit by Dickson and Millero (1987), and the KSO_4 determined by Dickson
271 (1990). The conditional stability constants used to derived pCO_2 are strictly only valid
272 for temperatures above 0 °C and salinities between 5 and 50. Studies in spring ice
273 indicated that seawater thermodynamic relationships may be acceptable in warm and
274 low-salinity sea ice (Delille et al., 2007). In sea ice brines at even moderate brine
275 salinities of 80, Brown et al. (2014) found that measured and calculated values of the
276 CO_2 system parameters can differ by as much as 40%. On the other hand, because the
277 CO_2 system parameters are much more variable in sea ice than in seawater, sea ice
278 measurements demand less precision than those in seawater. Fransson et al. (2015)
279 performed one of few detailed analyses of the internal consistency using four sets of
280 dissociation constants and found that the deviation between measured and calculated
281 DIC varied between ± 6 and $\pm 11 \mu\text{mol kg}^{-1}$, respectively. This error in calculated DIC
282 was considered insignificant in relation to the natural variability in sea ice.

283

284 The pCO_2 of atmosphere was calculated from CO_2 concentration (ppmv) at Ny-Ålesund,
285 Svalbard (<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/iadv/>) taking into account saturated water
286 vapor and atmospheric pressure during sampling day.

287

288 The water equivalent was computed for snow by multiplying snow thickness by snow
289 density (Jonas et al., 2009). Brine volume of sea ice was calculated from the
290 temperature and salinity of sea ice according to Cox and Weeks (1983) and Petrich and
291 Eicken (2010).

292

293

294 **3 Results**

295

296 **3.1 Air temperature**

297

298 Air temperature is shown in Figure 4. During the study period, air temperature varied
299 significantly from a low of -41.3°C (30 January) to a high of $+1.7^{\circ}\text{C}$ (15 June) (Hudson
300 et al., 2015). Even in wintertime (from January to March), rapid increases of air
301 temperature from below -30°C up to -0.2°C (e.g., 18 February), were observed. In
302 springtime (from April to June), the air temperature increased continuously, and from 1
303 June, air temperatures were near 0°C , although rapid increases (and subsequent
304 decreases) of air temperature to near 0°C were observed on two occasions in mid-May
305 (Cohen et al., 2017).

306

307

308 **3.2 Characteristics of snow, sea ice, and frost flowers**

309

310 The snow and ice thickness at the observation sites ranged between 0.0 and 60.0 cm and
311 between 15.0 and >200 cm, respectively (Table 1). The thin snow and ice represent
312 newly formed ice in leads at station YI1. The thickness of the frost flowers ranged from
313 1.0 to 2.5 cm.

314

315 Figure 5 shows vertical profiles of snow and ice temperature and salinity in the top 20
316 cm of ice. Temperatures within the snowpack depended on the air temperature at the
317 time of observation. However, the bottom of the snow and the surface of the sea ice
318 were relatively warm ($T > -7.5^{\circ}\text{C}$), except for the frost flowers station YI1 and the multi-
319 year ice station OI1 (Figure 5a and Table 2). High salinities ($S > 18.6$) characterized the
320 bottom of the snow and the surface of the sea ice, except for the multi-year ice station
321 OI1 (Figure 5b). At the multi-year ice station OI1, salinity was zero through the snow
322 and top of sea ice. Salinity of frost flowers was up to 92.8 for the thin ice station YI1
323 (Figure 5b). Snow density and water equivalent ranged from 268 to 400 kg m^{-3} and 11
324 to 180 kg m^{-2} , respectively.

325

326

327 **3.3 Physical and chemical properties of brine**

328

329 The brine volume fraction, temperature, salinity, DIC, TA, and calculated pCO₂ are
330 summarized in Table 2. Brine volume fraction in top 20 cm of ice was from 9 to 17%,
331 except for the value of 0% at the multi-year ice station OI1 (Table 2). Brine
332 temperatures and salinity ranged from -5.3 to -3.3°C and 51.8 to 86.6, respectively.
333 DIC and TA of brine ranged from 3261 to 4841 μmol kg⁻¹ and 3518 to 5539 μmol kg⁻¹,
334 respectively. The pCO₂ of brine (pCO_{2b}) (334–693 μatm) was generally higher than
335 that of atmosphere (pCO_{2a}) (401 ± 7 μatm), except for station FI4.

336

337

338 **3.4 CO₂ flux**

339

340 Table 3 summarizes the CO₂ flux measurements for each surface condition. For
341 undisturbed natural surface conditions, i.e. measurements directly on the snow surface
342 (F_{snow}) or the frost flowers (F_{ff}) on young ice, the mean CO₂ flux was +0.2 ± 0.2 mmol
343 C m⁻² day⁻¹ for F_{snow} and +1.0 ± 0.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for F_{ff}. The potential flux in
344 cases when snow or frost flowers had been removed (F_{ice}) was +2.5 ± 4.3 mmol C m⁻²
345 day⁻¹. The air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes measured over the ice surface (F_{ice}) increased with
346 increasing difference in pCO₂ between brine and atmosphere (ΔpCO_{2b-a}) with
347 significant correlation (R² = 0.9, p < 0.02), but this was not the case for F_{snow} (R² = 0.0,
348 p < 0.96) (Figure 6).

349

350

351

352 **4 Discussion**

353

354 **4.1 Effect of snow cover on the physical properties of sea ice surface**

355

356 In this study, we examined CO₂ fluxes between sea ice and atmosphere in a variety of
357 air temperature conditions from -32 to -3°C and diverse snow and ice conditions (Table
358 2). The bottom of the snow pack and the surface of the sea ice remained relatively warm
359 ($>-7.5^{\circ}\text{C}$) (Figure 5a, Table 2), except for stations OI1 and YI1, even though air
360 temperature was sometimes below -40°C (Figure 4). Relatively warm ice temperatures
361 were likely due to the upward heat transport from the bottom of the ice and in some
362 cases the thick insulating snow cover, except for stations OI1 and YI1 (Table 2).
363 Therefore, snow acted as thermal insulator over sea ice, and in general the snow depths
364 observed during N-ICE2015 point towards this being representative for first-year and
365 second-year or older ice in the study region in winter 2015 (Rösel et al., 2018). The
366 young and first-year ice surfaces were characterized by high salinities (Figure 5b).
367 During sea ice formation, upward brine transport to the snow pack occurs (e.g., Toyota
368 et al., 2011). In addition, brine within the sea ice was not completely drained as
369 compared to that of multi-year ice. Furthermore, formation of frost flowers and
370 subsequent wicking up of surface brine into the frost flowers also provides high salinity
371 at the surface of sea ice (Kaleschke et al., 2004; Geilfus et al., 2013; Barber et al., 2014;
372 Fransson et al., 2015) as observed in this study ($S>92$) (Figure 5b). Snowfall over the
373 frost flowers would have preserved the high salinity at the bottom of snow pack and top
374 of sea ice for young and first-year ice.

375

376 As a result of the combination of the relatively high temperature and high salinity at the
377 top of sea ice, brine volume fractions in the upper parts of the sea ice were high, up to
378 17% (Table 2). It has been shown that ice permeability increases by an order of
379 magnitude when brine volume fraction $> 5\%$, which would correspond to a temperature
380 of -5°C for a bulk ice salinity of 5 – the so called “law of fives” (Golden et al., 1998;
381 Pringle et al., 2009; Zhou et al., 2013). Because sea ice temperatures were low and
382 thereby reduced permeability in winter season, generally, air–sea ice CO₂ flux is at its
383 minimum in the winter (e.g., Delille et al., 2014). However, in our study, the brine
384 volume fractions were generally $>9\%$, except for station OI1 with fresh ice at the
385 surface, providing conditions for active gas exchange within sea ice and between sea ice
386 and atmosphere. This situation was likely made possible due to the thick snow cover
387 and relatively thin and young sea ice.

388

389

390 **4.2 CO₂ fluxes over different sea-ice surface types**

391

392 The CO₂ flux measurements over different surface conditions indicate that the snow
393 cover over sea ice affects the magnitude of air–sea ice CO₂ flux, especially for stations
394 FI5 and FI6 (Table 3). For undisturbed natural surface conditions, the CO₂ flux
395 measured directly over snow-covered first-year ice and young ice with frost flowers
396 (F_{snow} and F_{ff}) was lower in magnitude than that for potential flux obtained directly over
397 the ice surface after removing snow (F_{ice}), especially for stations FI5, FI6, and YI1.

398

399 F_{ff} indicates that the frost flowers surface on young thin ice is a CO₂ source to the
400 atmosphere and F_{ff} was higher than F_{snow} , except for station FI1. Frost flowers are
401 known to promote gas flux, such as CO₂, from the sea ice to the atmosphere (Geilfus et
402 al., 2013; Barber et al., 2014; Fransson et al., 2015). At multi-year ice station OI1,
403 neither snow or ice surface acted as a CO₂ source/sink. The surface of multi-year ice did
404 not contain any brine (Figure 5b and Table 2), and the top of the ice was clear, colorless
405 and very hard, suggesting superimposed formation at the top of sea ice. This situation
406 would be similar as for freshwater-ice and superimposed-ice as these non-porous media
407 block gas exchange effectively at the sea ice surface (Delille et al., 2014). Snow-ice and
408 superimposed-ice were frequently found in second-year ice cores during N-ICE2015
409 (Granskog et al., 2017), so the ‘blocking’ of gas exchange in second-year and multi-
410 year ice may be a widespread process in the Arctic.

411

412 The magnitude of positive F_{snow} is less than F_{ice} for stations FI5 and FI6 (Table 3)
413 indicating that the potential CO₂ flux from sea ice decreased due to the presence of
414 snow. Previous studies have shown that snow accumulation over sea ice effectively
415 impede CO₂ exchange (Nomura et al., 2013; Brown et al., 2015). Nomura et al. (2013)
416 reported that 50–90% of the potential CO₂ flux was reduced due to the presence of
417 snow/superimposed-ice at the water equivalent of 57–400 kg m⁻², indicating that the
418 snow properties are an important factor that controls the CO₂ exchange through a
419 snowpack. Comparisons between stations FI5 and FI6 for $F_{\text{snow}}/F_{\text{ice}}$ ratio (0.2 for FI5

420 and 0.0 for FI6) and water equivalent (11 kg m⁻² for FI5 and 127 kg m⁻² for FI6)
421 indicate that the potential CO₂ flux is reduced (80% for FI5 and 98% for FI6 of the
422 potential CO₂ flux) with increasing water equivalent. Although the magnitude of the
423 potential CO₂ flux through the sea ice surface decreased by the presence of snow for
424 stations FI5 and FI6 (Table 3), the snow surface still presents a CO₂ source to the
425 atmosphere for low snow density and shallow depth conditions (e.g., +0.6 mmol C m⁻²
426 day⁻¹ for FI5).

427

428 For F_{ice}, there were negative CO₂ fluxes at stations FI3 and FI4 (-0.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹
429 for FI3 and -0.8 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for FI4) (Table 3). These fluxes corresponded to low
430 or negative ΔpCO_{2 b-a} as compared to that in atmosphere (Table 2 and Figure 6).
431 Negative CO₂ fluxes should correspond to negative ΔpCO_{2 b-a}. Therefore, the
432 uncertainty for the calculation of carbonate chemistry may be one reason for the
433 discrepancy in pCO₂ calculation in these conditions (Brown et al., 2014).

434

435

436 **4.3 Comparison to earlier studies on sea-ice to air CO₂ flux**

437

438 The CO₂ fluxes measured over the undisturbed natural surface conditions (F_{snow} and F_{ff})
439 in this study ranged from +0.1 to +1.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ (Table 3), which are at the
440 lower end of the reported range based on the chamber method and eddy covariance
441 method for natural and artificial sea ice (-259.2 to +74.3 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹)
442 (Zemmelink et al., 2006; Nomura et al., 2006, 2010a, 2010b, 2013; Miller et al., 2011;
443 Papakyriakou and Miller, 2011; Geilfus et al., 2012, 2013, 2014; Barber et al., 2014;
444 Delille et al., 2014; Sørensen et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015; Kotovitch et al., 2016).
445 Direct comparison to previous studies is complicated because CO₂ flux measurements
446 with both chamber and eddy covariance techniques were used during different condition
447 for season and ice surface characteristics. In addition, discrepancies between chamber
448 and eddy covariance measurements of air-ice CO₂ fluxes have been repeatedly observed.
449 The footprint size of CO₂ exchange measured with the two approaches (Zemmelink et
450 al., 2006, 2008; Burba et al., 2008; Amiro, 2010; Miller et al., 2011; Papakyriakou and
451 Miller, 2011; Sørensen et al., 2014; Miller et al., 2015) may be one reason for the large

452 difference. The eddy covariance method reflects a flux integrated over a large area, that
453 can contain several different surface types. Therefore, eddy-covariance appears to be
454 more useful for understanding fluxes at large spatial and temporal scales. On the other
455 hand, the chamber method reflects the area where chamber was covered, and it is useful
456 for understanding the relationship between fluxes and ice surface conditions on smaller
457 scales. The different spatial scales of the two methods may be therefore one reason for
458 the discrepancy in CO₂ flux measurements.

459

460 Comparison of the natural CO₂ flux range (+0.1 to +1.6 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for F_{snow} and
461 F_{fr}) (Table 3) with previous estimates derived from the chamber method (-5.2 to +6.7
462 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) (Nomura et al., 2006, 2010a, 2010b, 2013; Geilfus et al., 2012,
463 2013; 2014; Barber et al., 2014; Delille et al., 2014; Brown et al., 2015; Kotovitch et al.,
464 2016) (these studies include both natural and potential fluxes) shows that CO₂ fluxes
465 during NICE2015 experiment are at the lower end of positive values. However, our
466 potential CO₂ flux (F_{ice}) was a larger CO₂ source (up to +11.8 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) than
467 reported in previous studies (+6.7 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹). In our study, the maximum
468 potential flux (e.g., +11.8 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹) was obtained for F_{ice} at station FI6 (Table
469 3). In this situation, ΔpCO_{2 b-a} (293 μatm) was the highest (Table 2 and Figure 6), and it
470 is reasonable to consider this as the highest magnitude of positive CO₂ flux within our
471 study. However, a previous study by closed chamber method showed that even for a
472 similar ΔpCO_{2 b-a} (297 μatm) and magnitude for the brine volume fraction (10–15%),
473 the CO₂ flux was +0.7 mmol C m⁻² day⁻¹ for artificial sea ice with no snow in the tank
474 experiment (Nomura et al., 2006).

475

476 The CO₂ flux between the sea ice and overlying air can be expressed by the following
477 equation,

478

$$479 F_{\text{CO}_2} = r_b k \alpha \Delta p\text{CO}_{2 \text{ b-a}},$$

480

481 where r_b is the ratio of surface of the brine channel to sea ice surface, and we assume
482 that the value of r_b is equal to brine volume fraction, k is the gas transfer velocity, α
483 is the solubility of CO₂ (Weiss, 1974), and $\Delta p\text{CO}_{2 \text{ b-a}}$ is the difference in pCO₂ between

484 brine and atmosphere. The equation is based on the fact that CO₂ transfer between
485 seawater and air is controlled by processes in the near-surface water (Liss, 1973). The
486 gas transfer velocity (k) calculated from F , r_b , α and $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{b-a}$ was 5.12 m day⁻¹ for F_{ice}
487 at station FI6 and 0.29 m day⁻¹ for the tank experiment examined in Nomura et al.
488 (2006). This result clearly indicates that the gas transfer velocity for F_{ice} at station FI6 is
489 higher than that of tank experiment examined in Nomura et al. (2006) even with very
490 similar $\Delta p\text{CO}_2_{b-a}$ and brine volume fraction.

491

492 Here, we surmise that the gas transfer velocity and thereby CO₂ flux is greatly enhanced
493 by the temperature difference between sea ice surface and atmosphere. Previous studies
494 indicate that there is an unstable air density gradient in a dry snowpack due to basal
495 heating and the strong temperature difference develops between bottom and top of snow
496 (e.g., Powers et al., 1985; Severinghaus et al., 2010), which enhances the flow of air
497 through the snowpack. We propose that the mixing and transport of gas within the
498 snowpack could also occur over sea ice. Because temperatures at the bottom of snow
499 and the top of sea ice were relatively warm due to a thick insulating snow over sea ice,
500 there was a strong temperature difference between sea ice surface and atmosphere when
501 air temperature was low (Figure 5a and Table 2). For station FI6, temperature difference
502 between sea ice surface and atmosphere was 20.2°C after snow removal. On the other
503 hand, in the tank experiment by Nomura et al. (2006), the temperature difference
504 between sea ice surface (top 1.5 cm) and air in the headspace was only 4.5°C.

505

506 Figure 6 shows the relationship between mean air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes and temperature
507 difference between ice and atmosphere. The strong dependence of CO₂ flux with
508 temperature difference ($T_{ice}-T_a$) was observed, especially for F_{ff} and F_{ice} ($R^2 > 0.7$, $p <$
509 0.01) (Figure 6). Due to the high brine volume fractions (Table 2), sea ice surface had
510 enough permeability for gas exchange. In addition, ice temperatures were similar for
511 young and first-year ice (Figure 6, Table 2), indicating that $p\text{CO}_2$ at the top of sea ice
512 and CO₂ flux would be of similar order of magnitude if thermodynamic processes
513 dominated. Therefore, our results suggest that the CO₂ fluxes even over the frost
514 flowers as a natural condition, would be enhanced by the upward transport of air
515 containing high CO₂ from the surface of sea ice to the atmosphere due to the strong

516 temperature difference between sea ice surface and atmosphere. Although the presence
517 of snow on sea ice has potential to produce a larger temperature difference between sea
518 ice surface and atmosphere and promote the upward transport, the magnitude of the CO₂
519 flux decreased due to the presence of snow. However, for young sea ice with frost
520 flowers (e.g., station Y11), ice surface temperature was warm (Table 2), suggesting that
521 CO₂ flux would be enhanced by the large temperature difference between sea ice
522 surface and atmosphere.

523

524

525

526 **5 Conclusions**

527

528 We measured CO₂ fluxes along with sea ice and snow physical and chemical properties
529 over first-year and young sea ice north of Svalbard in the Arctic pack ice. Our results
530 suggest that young thin snow-free ice, with or without frost flowers, is a source of
531 atmospheric CO₂ due to the high pCO₂ and salinity and relatively high sea ice
532 temperature. Although the potential CO₂ flux from sea-ice surface decreased due to the
533 presence of snow, snow surface still presents a modest CO₂ source to the atmosphere
534 for low snow density and shallow depth situations. The highest ice to air fluxes were
535 observed over thin young sea ice formed in leads. During N-ICE2015 the ice pack was
536 dynamic, and formation of open water was associated with storms, where new ice was
537 formed. The subsequent ice growth in these leads becomes important for the ice-to-air
538 CO₂ fluxes in winter due to the fact that the flux from young ice is an order of
539 magnitude larger than from snow-covered first-year and older ice.

540

541

542

543 **6 Data availability**

544

545 Data used in this paper will be available at Norwegian Polar Data Centre

546 (data.npolar.no).

547

548

549

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551

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563

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818

819 **Figure captions**

820

821 Figure 1. Location map of the sampling area north of Svalbard during N-ICE2015.
822 Image of the sea ice concentrations (a) and station map (b) were derived from Special
823 Sensor Microwave Imager (SSM/I) satellite data for mean of February 2015 and from
824 Sentinel-1 (Synthetic Aperture Radar Sensor) satellite data, respectively.

825

826 Figure 2. Photographs of the CO₂ flux chamber system at station YI1 north of Svalbard
827 on Friday 13 March 2015. CO₂ flux chamber was installed over the frost flowers on the
828 new thin ice in the refreezing lead.

829

830 Figure 3. Example of the temporal variation in CO₂ concentration (Δ CO₂) in the
831 chambers installed at station YI1 that is use to calculate the CO₂ flux. Δ CO₂ indicates
832 the change in CO₂ concentration inside the chamber since the chamber was closed.

833

834 Figure 4. Time series of air temperature measured at the weather mast over the ice floe
835 (10 m height) (Hudson et al., 2015). Blank period indicates no data. Colored symbols
836 indicate the date for the chamber flux measurements. The horizontal dashed line
837 indicates air temperature = 0°C.

838

839 Figure 5. Vertical profiles of temperature (a) and salinity (b) in snow and sea ice (top 20
840 cm). The horizontal line indicates snow–ice interface. Shaded area indicates sea ice. The
841 triangle in (a) indicates the air temperature for each station. For stations FI7 and YI2
842 and 3, we have no salinity data.

843

844 Figure 6. Relationships between mean air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes and temperature
845 difference between ice (T_{ice}) and atmosphere (T_a) (circle) and ice temperature (T_{ice})
846 (top 20 cm) (cross) for F_{snow} (blue), F_{ff} (black) and F_{ice} (red) for young and first-year sea
847 ice. Relationships between mean air–sea ice CO₂ fluxes and the difference of pCO₂
848 ($\Delta pCO_{2\ b-a}$) between brine (pCO_{2\ b}) and atmosphere (pCO_{2\ a}) (triangle) for F_{snow} (solid
849 gray) and F_{ice} (open gray).

850

851

852 **Table captions**

853

854 Table 1. Station, date for CO₂ flux measurement, position, floe number, surface
855 condition, ice type and thickness of snow, frost flowers, and sea ice.

856

857 a. Sea ice coring and snow sampling was conducted on 5 March 2015.

858

859 b. Sea ice coring and snow sampling was conducted on 10 March 2015.

860

861

862 Table 2. Station, snow density and water equivalent, brine volume fraction, and
863 temperature for sea ice (top 20 cm), brine temperature, salinity, DIC, TA, pCO₂ (pCO_{2\ b})
864 b), and atmospheric temperature, wind speed, pCO₂ (pCO_{2\ a})^a and $\Delta pCO_{2\ b-a}$.

865

866 a. $p\text{CO}_2\text{ a}$ (μatm) was calculated from CO_2 concentration (ppmv) at Ny-Ålesund,
867 Svalbard (<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/iadv/>) taking into account saturated water
868 vapor and atmospheric pressure during sampling day.

869

870 b. Mean values for snow column.

871

872 c. "-" indicates no data. Due to technical reasons, data of snow, sea ice, and brine were
873 not obtained.

874

875

876 Table 3. CO_2 flux measured over the snow (F_{snow}), frost flowers (F_{ff}), and ice surface
877 (F_{ice}). Values measured directly over undisturbed surfaces (either with frost flowers or
878 on snow surface) at a given station are indicated in bold.

879

880 a. Data of first CO_2 flux measurement after removal of snow or frost flowers.

881

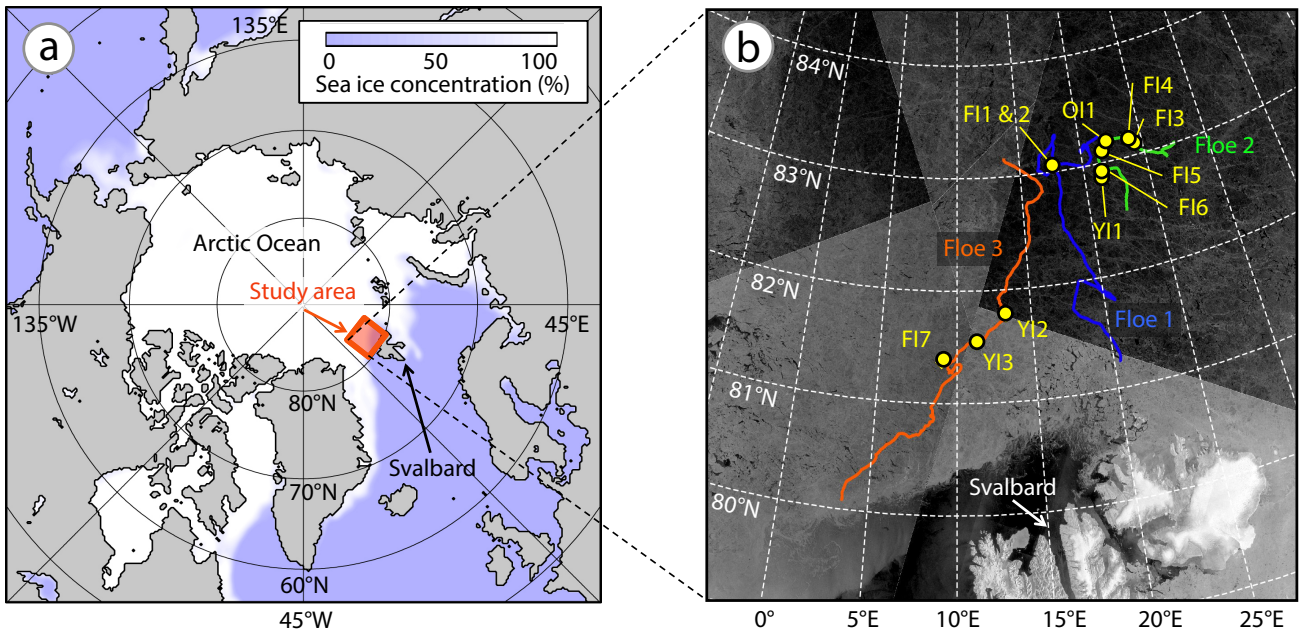
882 b. "-" indicates no data.

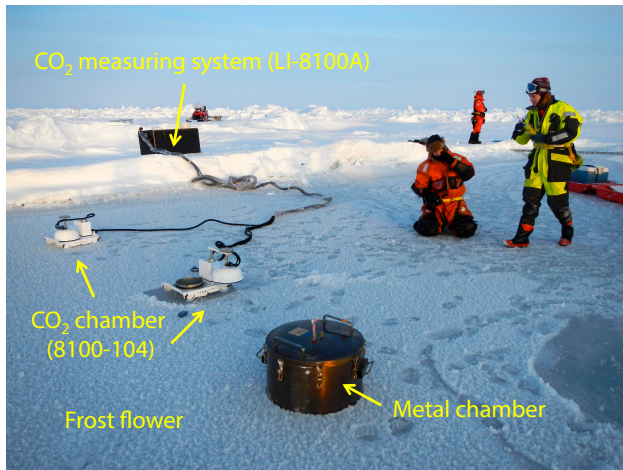
883

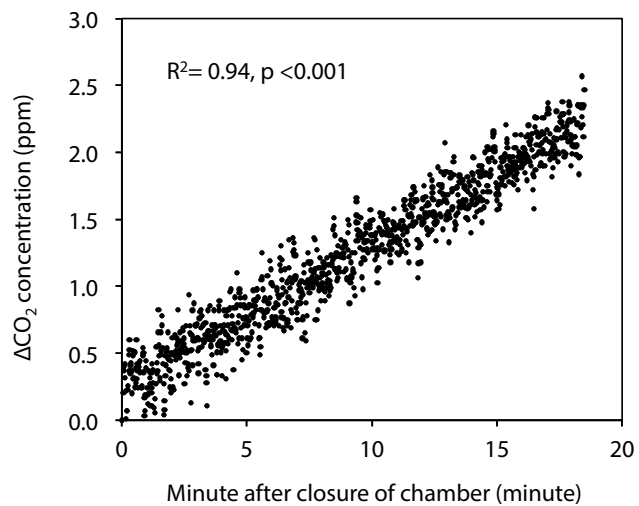
884 c. Number of measurements in bracket.

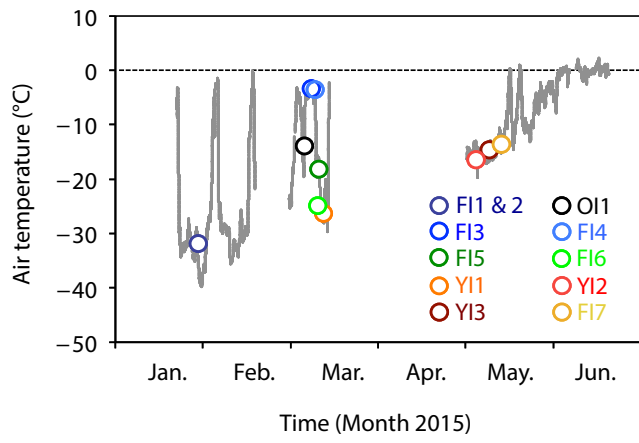
885

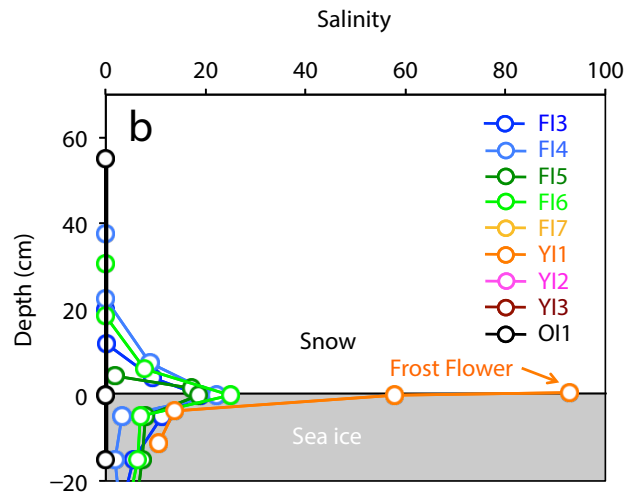
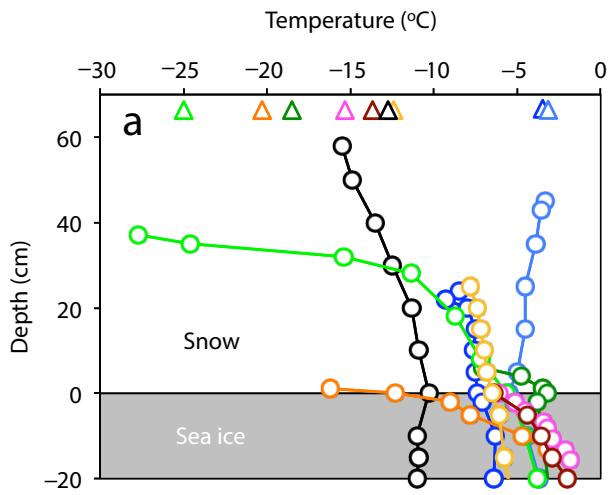
886 d. Data from station OI1 was not included.











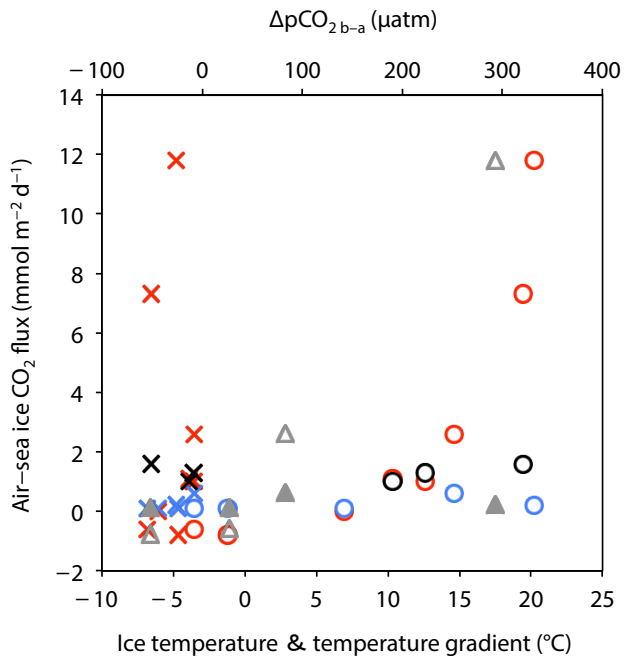


Table 1. Station, position, date for CO₂ flux measurement, floe number, surface condition, ice type and thickness of snow, frost flower, and sea ice.

Station	Position	Date of 2015	Floe number	Surface condition	Ice type ^c	Thickness (cm)		
						Snow	Frost flower	Sea ice
FI1	83°03.77N, 17°34.94E	28 January	1	Frost flower	First-year ice	0.0	1.0	37.0
FI2	83°03.77N, 17°34.94E	28 January	1	Snow	First-year ice	8.0	No	35.0
FI3	83°08.00N, 24°09.02E	5 and 8 March ^a	2	Snow	First-year ice	29.0	No	98.0
FI4	83°10.56N, 22°09.42E	9 March	2	Snow	First-year ice	36.0	No	92.0
FI5	83°06.02N, 21°38.29E	10 and 11 March ^b	2	Snow	First-year ice	3.0	No	48.0
FI6	82°55.36N, 21°25.92E	12 March	2	Snow	First-year ice	37.0	No	69.0
FI7	81°22.18N, 08°59.93E	13 May	3	Snow	First-year ice	26.5	No	127.0
YI1	82°52.52N, 21°16.54E	13 March	2	Frost flower	Young ice	0.0	1.0	15.0
YI2	81°46.53N, 13°16.00E	5 May	3	Snow and frost flower mixed	Young ice	2.5	2.5	17.5
YI3	81°32.45N, 11°17.20E	9 May	3	Snow and frost flower mixed	Young ice	2.0	2.0	22.0
OI1	83°07.18N, 24°25.59E	6 March	2	Snow	Old ice (multi-year ice)	60.0	No	>200

a. Sea ice coring, brine and snow sampling was conducted on 5 March 2015.

b. Sea ice coring, brine and snow sampling was conducted on 10 March 2015.

c. Ice type was categorized based on WMO (1970).

Table 2. Station, snow density and water equivalent, brine volume fraction and temperature for sea ice (top 20 cm), brine temperature, salinity, DIC, TA, pCO₂ (pCO_{2,b}) and atmospheric temperature, wind speed, pCO₂ (pCO_{2,a})^a and ΔpCO_{2,b-a}.

Station	Snow		Sea ice (top 20 cm)		Brine					Atmosphere			
	Density ^b (kg m ⁻³)	Water equivalent (kg m ⁻²)	Brine volume fraction (%)	Temperature (°C) (range)	Temperature (°C)	Salinity	DIC (μmol kg ⁻¹)	TA (μmol kg ⁻¹)	pCO _{2,b} (μatm)	Temperature (°C)	Wind speed (m second ⁻¹)	pCO _{2,a} (μatm)	ΔpCO _{2,b-a} (μatm)
F11	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	—31.6	4.0	405	— ^c
F12	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	—31.6	4.0	405	— ^c
F13	399	104	9	-6.8 (-7.4 to -6.3)	-5.2	84.8	4628	5539	427	-3.3	9.0	400	27
F14	400	180	9	-4.7 (-5.5 to -3.7)	-5.3	86.6	4433	5490	334	-3.5	6.2	386	-52
F15	268	11	17	-3.5 (-3.8 to -3.1)	-3.3	51.8	3261	3518	472	-18.1	6.8	389	83
F16	343	127	13	-4.8 (-5.7 to -3.8)	-4.8	84.0	4841	5493	693	-25.0	3.6	400	293
F17	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	-6.1 (-6.1 to -5.8)	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	-13.0	5.8	405	— ^c
Y11	— ^c	— ^c	17	-6.6 (-12.3 to -2.6)	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	-26.0	2.6	402	— ^c
Y12	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	-3.6 (-5.1 to -1.8)	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	-16.2	4.5	407	— ^c
Y13	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	-3.9 (-6.4 to -2.0)	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	-14.2	6.7	410	— ^c
O11	— ^c	— ^c	0	-10.8 (-11.0 to -10.9)	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	— ^c	-13.5	4.7	397	— ^c

a. pCO_{2,a} (μatm) was calculated from CO₂ concentration (ppmv) at Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard (<http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/dv/iadv/>) taking into account the saturated water vapor and atmospheric pressures at sampling day.

b. Mean values for column.

c. "—" indicates no data. Due to the technical reason, data of snow, sea ice, and brine were not obtained.

Table 3. CO₂ flux measured over the snow (F_{snow}), frost flowers (F_{ff}) and ice surface (F_{ice}).

Station	CO ₂ flux (mmol C m ⁻² day ⁻¹)		
	Natural flux (mean ± 1SD)		Potential flux
	F _{snow}	F _{ff}	F _{ice} ^a
FI1	– ^b	+0.1 ± 0.1 (n=7) ^c	– ^b
FI2	+0.4 ± 0.3 (n=13) ^c	– ^b	– ^b
FI3	+0.1 ± 0.1 (n=7) ^c	– ^b	–0.6
FI4	+0.1 ± 0.1 (n=6) ^c	– ^b	–0.8
FI5	+0.6 ± 0.3 (n=5) ^c	– ^b	+2.6
FI6	+0.2 ± 0.1 (n=5) ^c	– ^b	+11.8
FI7	+0.1 ± 0.1 (n=10) ^c	– ^b	±0.0
YI1	– ^b	+1.6 ± 0.2 (n=6) ^c	+7.3
YI2	– ^b	+1.3 ± 0.2 (n=9) ^c	+1.0
YI3	– ^b	+1.0 ± 0.4 (n=8) ^c	+1.1
OI1	+0.1 ± 0.0 (n=6) ^c	– ^b	+0.2
Mean ^d	+0.2 ± 0.2 (n=46) ^c	+1.0 ± 0.6 (n=30) ^c	+2.5 ± 4.3 (n=9) ^c

a. Data of first measurement after removal of snow or frost flower.

b. "–" indicates no data.

c. Number of measurements in bracket.

d. Data of station OI1 was not included.